

BL refuses job for Mr Robinson and strike is called

There is no possibility of Mr Derek Robinson, the dismissed communist convener, being reinstated, BL told the engineering union yesterday. The union immediately ordered a strike of its 8,000 mem-

bers at the plant in Longbridge, Birmingham. The company warned the union that the strike could lead to more than 50,000 BL workers being laid off almost at once and that all new investment would stop.

50,000 workers could be laid off

By David Felton and Donald Macintyre

British Leyland management yesterday firmly ruled out any possibility that Mr Derek Robinson, the dismissed communist union convener, would be reinstated. This brought the immediate response from his union that a strike of its 8,000 members at BL's Longbridge plant will go ahead.

Mr Ray Horrocks, managing director of BL Cars, said: "We are not prepared to allow strike action to reverse a decision which we are convinced, was fully justified." He gave a warning that a strike could put thousands of jobs at risk and could lead to BL's plans for new models, including the Mini Metro, being amended.

Mr Horrocks said in a letter to Mr Duffy setting out the state car firm's position: "Before Austin Morris dismissed Mr Robinson all the possible consequences were considered. No new fact has emerged that would justify a reconsideration of our decision. It is clear that not only our management but many Longbridge employees as well are convinced that the decision was right."

The letter went on: "I think it is common ground that if BL Cars is to survive (and we are determined it will) management and employees must work constructively together. It is our view that Mr Robinson's conduct over the past two years has proved convincingly that he is not prepared to work constructively either with the company or, indeed, with your union."



Mr Robinson: "Unsuitable on his track record."

Mr Horrocks urged Mr Duffy to call off the strike or, at the very least, hold a secret ballot to gauge the opinion of the work force.

At a press conference Mr Horrocks rejected the findings of the AUEW's own inquiry into the dismissal of Mr Robinson for distributing a leaflet urging the work force to oppose the plans of Sir Michael Edwards, BL chairman, to reorganise the company, with 25,000 job losses.

Mr Horrocks said the inquiry report had concentrated on how Mr Robinson was dismissed and not why. He maintained that in March last year Mr Robinson was given a verbal warning for calling an unofficial strike, against the advice of his union.

Mr Horrocks said that a strike at Longbridge would lead to more than 50,000 BL workers being laid off with a knock-on effect upon component suppliers.

The cash position makes it impossible for us to cushion this effect in any way by building up stock. So the company will be virtually immediate. Austin Morris and other major parts of BL Cars will stop. All new investment will stop, with inevitable delays to new model programmes like the Mini Metro, the company said.

Mr Horrocks told the press conference: "Right now, on his track record, Mr Derek Robinson is not suitable for re-employment."

Continued on page 2, col 6

Shaikh Yamani complains of inflation eating into return on dollar investments Saudi Arabia threatens cutbacks in high oil production

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, Feb 7

Saudi Arabia had secondary fields whose exploitation required large investments, he said, but these were not worth the inflation rate they were unlikely to continue producing at their present high levels.

Shaikh Yamani, addressing the European Management Forum at Davos, indicated that so far the rate of return on his country's dollar investments had "always been below zero, taking account of inflation".

Separate discussions could be held between the Europeans and the producing nations to improve their relationship and move away from confrontation.

Current signs were of an approaching glut because of increased Mexican and North Sea output, falling consumption and lowering of stocks.

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Picket-line anger: A striking steelman shouts his opinion on the picket line outside the privately-owned Sheerness Steel Works on the Isle of Sheppey where 500 workers are defying their union's strike call.

More than 100 flying pickets failed to have any impact on production. Police called in reinforcements as angry pickets shouted at lorry drivers going through the lines. But there was no violence, and only one lorry and four pickets were arrested in clashes early yesterday outside BL's

car body plant at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham. Two policemen received minor injuries as pickets tried to stop lorries leaving and entering the plant. The four were charged with causing criminal damage and with breach of the peace. Steel strike reports, page 2

Unpalatable law cannot be ignored, Lords say

By David Nicholson-Lord

Unless judges resisted the temptation to disregard "unpalatable" legislation, respect for the law in cases involving industrial action would disappear, the Law Lords said yesterday.

Giving reasons for the House of Lords' decision last week to reverse the Court of Appeal's ruling against the extension of the steel strike to the private sector, Lord Diplock, who presided, described the conclusion that the test of whether an act was done in furtherance of a trade dispute was purely subjective as "inherently repugnant" to anyone involved in the administration of justice.

Sharing those instincts it was a conclusion that reached with considerable reluctance, for given the existence of a trade dispute, it involves granting to trade unions a power, which has no other limits than their own self-restraint, to inflict by means which are contrary to the general law, and which is not subject to industrial enterprises unaccompanied with the particular dispute, to the employees of such enterprises, to members of the public and to the nation itself.

The court had been presented with the "insidious temptation" to cross the boundary between interpretation and legislation, he said. But if the national interest required that some limits should be put upon the use of industrial muscle, the law could be done only by Parliament.

If judges were to grant injunctions notwithstanding that they know that it is highly probable that the acts they are enforcing are perfectly lawful, it is unlikely that voluntary respect for the law... will continue to have any influence in controlling industrial action", he said.

In a second judgment, Lord Scarman, president of the Court of Appeal, presided over by Lord Denning, on the ground that it is in their desire to do justice, it "failed to do justice according to law".

Unpalatable statute law should not be disregarded or rejected merely because it is unpalatable. This would result in confidence in the judicial system being replaced by fear of its becoming "uncertain and arbitrary".

Society would then be ready for law to be changed, and that of judges to do justice, he said. Law Report, page 12

Dockers to strike over pay

One thousand dockers in London are to be called out on strike from Monday. Picket lines will be maintained at the Royal Group, the India and Millwall and at Tilbury.

Although the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers Union has only 1,000 of the 3,300 workforces, the enclosed docks, members of the rival Transport and General Workers' Union are not expected to cross picket lines.

This means about half London's docks will be idle.

A decision to give 25 days notice of strike action unless the London Enclosed Docks Employers' Association increased its 12 per cent pay offer was taken last month.

On Tuesday the talks broke down when the employers' offer was rejected by both unions. The transport union, because of the colour of its cards, has instituted an overtime ban and one-day strikes. It has been demanding a 43 per cent pay rise. The stevedores and dockers' union wants a 30 per cent rise.

Shippers are expected to move many of their vessels out of the docks during the week-end. The employers were trying yesterday to set up new talks for next week.

Employment Bill to be ready by August

By Fred Emery, Political Editor

Senior ministers disclosed last night that whatever the pressures from current industrial disputes the Government did not intend to rush the passage of its controversial employment Bill, which limits trade union powers.

It was expected that the Bill would be on the statute book by August, in time for next autumn's round of industrial action, and not before.

To that extent, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, has won one round in his struggle with those Cabinet colleagues who have been pressing for tougher measures.

Mr Prior last night also won another round in his struggle with those Conservative critics at a crowded meeting of the 1922 Committee, according to initial accounts.

He said he recognized the general public's impatience with strikers' actions but in changing the law they had to be sure they got it right, and not repeat the mistakes of the 1973-74 confrontation.

To the four or five MPs who wondered why quicker tougher action was not possible, Mr Prior reportedly answered that a further industrial relations bill a year or so hence might

be possible to deal with such Conservative criticisms as curbing social security benefits.

But he gave no promises and pleaded for understanding if building on his bill and the proposed amendment on immunities was the first stage.

He was reported to have been warmly received.

However, the measures to narrow union immunities regarding secondary industrial action remain to be agreed and defined. The Cabinet meeting yesterday did not return to the failure of ministers to agree on Wednesday to the draft proposals on union immunities presented by Mr Prior.

The only new development was Mr Margaret Thatcher's undertaking in the Commons to bring the Government's eventual proposal on immunities to the floor of the House rather than treat it in committee.

Pressed by Mr James Callaghan, leader of the Opposition, the Prime Minister categorically refused to abandon the Bill in favour of a new round of consultations with the TUC. But Mr Callaghan had meant her to defer only the Government's new proposals on immunities.

Mrs Thatcher said the Government would press ahead with its consultative document, due out at the end of next week.

US shelve further sanctions on Iran

From Patrick Brogan, Washington, Feb 7

The State Department admitted today that further sanctions against Iran will be held in abeyance while diplomatic efforts to obtain the release of the hostages continue. Only two days ago, the Department's spokesman insisted that a new set of sanctions regulations would be issued soon.

Mr Warren Christopher, Deputy Secretary of State, said yesterday that the situation over the hostages was "somewhat promising". There have been persistent rumours here and in the Middle East that serious negotiations are under way between the new Iranian Government and Washington, directly or through the mediation of Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General.

The additional American sanctions were to ban all trade between the United States and Iran except food and medical supplies. Since the United States stopped buying Iranian oil and froze Iranian bank assets last November, there has been no trade, so the sanctions would have seemed redundant anyway.

America tried to get United Nations sanctions approved by the Security Council, but when the Soviet Union vetoed the resolution six weeks ago the Americans announced they would go ahead with sanctions of their own.

Since then the spokesmen at the State Department and the White House have been asked every day what was going to be done, and until today always insisted action was imminent.

In much the same vein, the announcement on December 12 that most of the Iranian diplomats here would be asked to leave, and the earlier announcement that Iranian students in the United States would be sent home, both proved to be illusory gestures. There are still as many Iranian diplomats as ever and probably more students than before.

The hopeful signs detected by Mr Christopher are the election of President Dini-Sadr and his various statements condemning the militants occupying the United States Embassy in Tehran.

Solidarity pledge: Professor Norman Foner, leader of a group of Americans who arrived in Tehran yesterday for unofficial talks with the students holding the embassy hostages, called today for solidarity between the ordinary people of the United States and Iran.

Speaking at a cemetery near Tehran, where many who died in the attempt to overthrow the Shah lie buried, he said: "Our presence here with you today is to join hands in solidarity and to begin work that will lead to a peaceful world, a civil world, and an eternal life based on the friendship between the Iranian and the American peoples."

Mr Nasser Minachi, the Iranian Information Minister, left prison today, while the Muslim students whose disclosure of captured American documents put him there were branded by President Bani-Sadr as lawless and contrary to Islam.

Mr Minachi was freed by a unanimous vote of the ruling Revolutionary Council last night, within 24 hours of his arrest by Revolutionary Guards, for alleged collaboration with the American Central Intelligence Agency.

In today's *Kayhan* newspaper, President Bani-Sadr wrote: "How can there be peace in a country where a responsible Minister is detained at midnight without question and without authority, and where radio and television allow groups to act in a unilateral way and deny the right of defence to their victims?"

Agence France-Presse and Reuters.

Paris and Bonn shatter Soviet détente plans

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Feb 7

The Soviet post-Afghanistan plan for a new relationship with the West, centred on Western Europe, appears to be collapsing before it emerged, to the Russians' dismay.

The strong condemnation of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan by the French and West Germans has shattered Soviet hopes that continental Europe could be won over to the influence of the United States and kept on reasonable terms with Moscow by the promise of continued détente within Europe.

The summit declaration brought forth a warning from the Russians that the two countries were giving way to "unprincipled pressure" from the United States and placing Europe itself in danger.

Détente, Tass, the Soviet news agency, said in a commentary last night, was in a sense divisible. It could continue in continental Europe in spite of growing tensions in

other parts of the world. Britain, as a hardline ally of the United States, was excluded from this cosy arrangement.

For a time, Moscow appeared to believe that France and West Germany, both important trading partners of the Soviet Union, would be so reluctant to throw away the fruits of détente that they could be counted on not to follow the United States in retaliatory measures against the Soviet Union, to oppose an Olympic boycott and to go no further than routine verbal condemnations of Soviet actions in Afghanistan.

Indeed, the Russians were so sure that business could continue as normal that they tried to show how eager businessmen and politicians were for continuing contacts on every possible occasion. This is what probably led Tass yesterday to make the mistake of saying the meeting of a senior German bank official with Soviet officials on economic cooperation had been at his request, where-

Continued on page 6, col 1

GEC decides to counter new Racal bid

After bids from Racal and GEC and a counter offer from Racal which values Decca at £93m, Sir Arnold Weinstock's GEC announced that it would extend its original £82.5m bid. On the news of the increased offer Decca's share gained 15p to 550p which is still some way short of Racal's best offer.

EEC plan may put £150m on food prices

An increase in the minimum prices guaranteed to the EEC's eight million farmers of between 1.5 and 3.5 per cent for the 1980-81 marketing year was announced by Mr Finn Ulstrup, European Commissioner for Agriculture. It is estimated that this would mean an increase of about £150m in consumer expenditure on food in Britain.

Moscow: Bolshoi deflections brings to light long quarrel over "stiffening conservative" repertoire

Reservists' call-up in Rhodesia

Police and security force reservists in Southern Rhodesia are "virtually certain" to be called up to provide adequate protection during the general election at the end of the month. The continuing wave of intimidation and violence around the country was said to have influenced the authorities who have held the force on standby for some time.

Abdication favoured

A survey by Marplan shows that a majority of people think the Queen should abdicate at a fixed age and allow the Prince of Wales to be King. Of those in favour of abdication, 65 per cent thought the right time to be her 60th birthday.

Denning ruling upset

The Law Lords reversed a ruling by Lord Denning in the Court of Appeal last July that a public inquiry into the proposed M40 and M42 motorway extensions should be reopened. The decision will be a blow to anti-roads campaigners who brought the case to challenge inquiry procedures.

Brighter outlook for Church of England

Latest statistics for the Church of England appear to show an improvement in outlook with a reversal of the long-term trend towards contraction. The total number of confirmations began to rise in 1976, as did the number of ordinations to the priesthood, and the following years.

£225,000 award

A settlement of £225,000, believed to be a record award for injuries, was agreed in Cardiff in favour of a scaffolder who fell 30 ft while working above a main road in Staffordshire.

Railcard success

More than a million journeys have been made in the first nine months of British Rail's family railcard scheme and railway managers predict even greater success in the next few years.

£600,000 test tube baby expected

Australia's first test tube baby is due to be born in four months as a result of an eight-year programme costing \$A1.2m (£600,000). A laboratory-fertilized embryo has been transferred into the uterus of a 26-year-old nurse, married to a schoolteacher. This led to a healthy pregnancy.

Education proposals: Means test plans for assisted places in independent schools

North Sea fire-fighters: Duke of Edinburgh inaugurates £40m emergency vessel.

Civil Defence: Seventy MPs sign early day motion calling for reinforcement of corps to protect civilians.

Gibraltar: Sir Joshua Hassan's Government is returned to power in the elections to the House of Assembly.

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 24-26; Appointments, 9; Property, 23; Holidays, 24.

Letters: On trade unions and the law, from Lord Wedderburn of Charlton, and others; on expanding the reserve forces, from Mr Michael Stephen and Mr Philip Smith.

Leading articles: Afghanistan: Lords steel judgement, features, pages 12, 14.

Gregory F. Trevelyan on détente—the two views in the West: Dr Tony Smith on heart transplants, Sport, pages 7, 8.

European leaders: Woodcock reviews England's tour of Australia: Rugby Union: Wales unchanged for international at Twickenham: Football: Northern Ireland's new manager, Arts, page 11.

Nicholas Wapshott, reviewing the week's new films, finds that Rose presents a highly moral tale of the pressures and miseries of rock music.

Camryn Laye, Mr David Wills: Business News, pages 17-22. Stock markets: Equities made further progress on hopes of an early end to the steel strike. City showed signs of about 50p and the FT Index closed 7.0 up at 462.9.

Financial Editor: GEC will respond to London and County paying up.

Business features: Darrell Delamonte on criticisms that the German Post Office is misusing its monopoly.

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HOME NEWS

Law Lords overturn Denning ruling for reopening of inquiry into motorway extensions

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The House of Lords yesterday overturned a decision by Lord Denning in the Court of Appeal last July that a public inquiry into the proposed M40 and M42 motorway extensions should be reopened.

The decision will come as a bitter blow to the campaign against the extensions, which is being fought by a group of campaigners who instigated the case as a challenge to inquiry procedures.

The case was lodged in the High Court by the M42 Action Group in October, 1976, alleging that the inquiry inspector had acted improperly in accepting a claim by the department of the Environment that methods of forecasting future traffic flows were a matter of government policy and could not be challenged at inquiries.

An application for the inquiry to be reopened was rejected by the High Court in December, 1977, but subsequently Lord Denning de-

clared that it should be reopened to consider new information which had since come to light.

At that time he said that further delay was preferable to leaving the objection with a sense of grievance. "There has been a deplorable loss of confidence in public inquiries," he said.

But yesterday the Law Lords ruled by a four-to-one majority that Lord Denning was wrong to quash the approval of the motorway proposals by the Secretary of State for the Environment. The latter's appeal was, therefore, upheld.

Dissenting, Lord Edmund-Davies said that the inspector's refusal to allow cross-examination on methods of calculating traffic forecasts meant that the inquiry was denied a "fair crack of the whip".

Mr George Knott, chairman of the M40 Action Committee, said last night that the House

of Lords decision showed that Government forecasts were sacrosanct and could not be challenged.

Mr Christopher Milner, Midlands secretary of the British Road Federation, said: "The will of the majority who wanted the motorway has been upheld, and we just hope that it will go ahead as quickly as possible."

That hope may be in vain. Further public inquiries remain to be completed before the full routes of both motorways are established. The Department of Transport indicated yesterday that construction was unlikely to start for at least four or five years.

It may be that, because of cuts in public expenditure, both schemes will be dropped or severely modified in the forthcoming White Paper on roads policy, expected to be published in April.

Law Report, page 12
Leading article, page 15

Developer threatens lawsuit over delay

By Our Planning Reporter

A developer yesterday threatened to take legal action against Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, over what he considers unnecessary delay in approving a proposed shopping centre in Hull.

Chesterfield Properties Ltd claimed that Mr Heseltine's decision to "call in" the planning application before it was approved by Hull City Council was a waste of time and money.

Both the company and the council have applied for the costs incurred by a public inquiry which ended last week, at which not one objector appeared.

Mr Roger Wingate, managing director of the company, said yesterday that the department had given no reasons for wishing to interfere with the planning policies of both the city and county councils. If the scheme was not approved before the end of April, the company

would take proceedings in the High Court.

A city official said that the council supported Chesterfield's position and felt that it had a legitimate grievance. The whole inquiry had been quite unnecessary.

The department said yesterday that it had been concerned about the effect of another proposed shopping scheme in the city, and had considered that the two applications should be examined together.

Wider base for inner city revival urged

By Our Planning Reporter

Much greater involvement of both private enterprise and local communities is needed if Britain's decaying inner cities are to have any chance of revival. This is the main conclusion of three reports published today by the School of Planning Studies at Reading University.

The reports are a result of a comparative study of urban difficulties in Britain, the United States and West Germany, initiated by the International Institute for Environment and Development and sponsored by the German Marshall Fund of Washington, DC.

Mr Douglas Hart, leader of one of the British groups which visited the other two countries, points out in his report that present British inner cities policy is confined to partnerships between central and local government and statutory bodies. Such partnerships effectively exclude both the private sector and local residents.

He said yesterday that Americans to whom he had

explained the partnerships had expressed amazement that private firms had not been invited to participate.

Mr Lyn Davies, who co-ordinated the British part of the project, added that in both Germany and the United States there was much greater emphasis on local responsibility and much less idea of leaving the responsibility to government.

Another report, by Rosemary Newham, observes that in both Germany and the United States there is "a deep-seated belief in the power of small firms to create employment", whereas in Britain concern for small firms is seen as a mere passing fashion.

The third report, by Judith Huntley, suggests that Britain should consider copying the American idea of neighbourhood housing services, which are partnerships between residents, local government and private financial institutions to revitalize whole districts.

Urban Economic Development (22), Community Enterprise (22.50), Neighbourhood Revitalization (2.50), (School of Planning Studies, Reading University.)

Union questions minister on future of London hospital

By Annabel Ferriman

The National Union of Public Employees has written to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, asking whether St George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, London, is to be sold in the private sector of medicine after its closure on June 30.

Mr Ian Scott, a NUPE area officer, asks how much of the site is owned by the Department of Health and Social Security

and whether it intends to sell that once the hospital is closed. At present £200,000 is being spent on scaffolding there, which the union considers "surprising", the letter says.

The DHSS said yesterday that it owned the northern half of the site. The southern half was subject to a covenant by which it had to be offered back to its previous owners, the Grosvenor Estate, if the department ceased to use it as a hospital.

Man 'escaped in suicide pact with brothers'

Charles Appleton, aged 29, told the police how he cheated death in a suicide pact in which his brother died under an express train, Mr H. T. Blakeston, the Ryedale coroner, was told at an inquest at Eastingwold, North Yorkshire.

He had said that he and his brother, Brian, aged 44, a farm worker at Kirby Hill, Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire, laid their heads across the east coast main line.

Detective Inspector Donald Johnson, of North Yorkshire CID, said Mr Charles Appleton, of Chestnut Grove, Baldersley, near Thirsk, had said: "I lost my nerve and tried to pull Brian away but it was too late."

Mr Charles Appleton refused to give evidence. The jury returned a verdict that Mr Brian Appleton killed himself.

Dead birds and fish tested for canister poison

Dead fish and birds, found on the beach at Worthing, Sussex, yesterday, were being examined to see if they had been contaminated by poisonous fumes from canisters washed ashore from the sunken Greek freighter Aeolian Sky.

Some of the canisters contain arsenic trichloride, which gives off deadly fumes if exposed to air.

Hundreds of the canisters from the ship, which sank in November off Portland, Dorset, have been found on the Isle of Wight and south coast beaches. The public have been warned not to touch them; but to tell the police.

Seven people, including two policemen, were taken to hospital earlier this week after being affected by fumes from a split canister at Shoreham.

Youth in a temper killed friend with putter

From Our Correspondent
Manchester

A moment's loss of temper by a boy of 16 caused the death of a friend, it was stated at Manchester Crown Court yesterday.

Mr John Huggill, QC, for the prosecution, said that during an argument on a putting green at a park at Chorlton, Manchester, the defendant, his friend on a putter, striking a cerebral haemorrhage from which he died shortly afterwards.

The boy was given a conditional discharge for two years by Judge Prest, QC, who said: "It does not seem to me that either in your interest or in the interest of the law it would be appropriate to deprive you of your liberty."

"It may be difficult for the dead boy's family to understand

this, but I am punishing you for what you did and not for the tragic results of that one single blow."

"You each used violence, but I do not believe that either of you intended seriously to hurt the other."

The boy, from Brunswick, Manchester, admitted the manslaughter of his friend, also aged 16, from Chorlton.

Mr Huggill said that one evening last July, an argument started after the defendant was refused permission to join a game of putting and became abusive to the other boy. Later the defendant was "battered and punched in the face."

The defendant struck out with the putter hitting the other boy on the base of the skull. He tried to bring him round but the other boy died soon afterwards.

NF rally in Belfast faces strong opposition

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

An attempt by the National Front to establish itself in Northern Ireland has provoked urgent consultations between politicians, trade unions and student organizers.

The police have authorized a National Front rally outside the American consulate building in the centre of Belfast on February 23, ostensibly to protest about the United States arms embargo on the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

The students' union at Queen's University, Belfast, plans a counter-demonstration leaving aside the arms question and concentrating its protest on the organization's racial policies.

The Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union in Belfast is urgently studying the best response and attempts are being made to call all trade unions together to formulate a joint stand with politicians, students, and local community groups. That might lead to the establishment of a branch of the Anti-Nazi League.

Mr Tony Gallagher, deputy president of the students' union, said last night: "We are not going to go looking for confrontation because that would suit the National Front. We will not be replying to the issue they are raising because that has been picked merely to give a platform for their more infamous policies."



The Duke of Edinburgh on the new £40m oil rig support vessel MSV Tharos yesterday.

Duke visits North Sea 'fire extinguisher'

The Duke of Edinburgh yesterday flew 110 miles out into the North Sea to see the world's most advanced oil rig support vessel and then told Mr "Red" Adair, the fire fighter, that it was "a very expensive fire extinguisher".

The Duke was inaugurating the MSV Tharos, the North Sea's newest and most sophisticated support vessel which is

a floating hotel, hospital and fire engine combined.

The emergency equipment on board the Tharos, which can deal with fires and blow-outs and can also be used for dispersing oil, was based on designs by Mr Adair, who chatted to the Duke for some minutes as he toured the vessel.

"He was asking me about fighting fires in general. I told him this vessel would have

helped us in every job we have had in the world. It is the most advanced thing there is," Mr Adair said.

Prince Philip's tour of the £40m vessel, which looks like an oil platform but is capable of moving at more than seven knots, took him into the diving chambers.

The vessel is operated by the Occidental Consortium.

Young Sikh sues head on ruling over turban

From Our Correspondent
Birmingham

A Sikh schoolboy who passed his examinations for a Birmingham private school was told by the headmaster that he could not be admitted unless he removed his turban and cut his hair, it was alleged at Birmingham County Court yesterday.

The Commission for Racial Equality, which is supporting an action for damages, is seeking a ruling by Judge Gosling as to whether Sikhs are a racial group who would have protection under the Race Relations Act.

Gurinder Singh Mandla, aged 13, and his father, Mr Sewa Singh Mandla, a solicitor, are claiming that the Park Grove private school in Edgbaston, Birmingham, and Mr A. G. Dowell Lee, the headmaster, were guilty of unlawful discrimination.

They claim damages for injured feelings and also say that the boy was discriminated against indirectly by the school enforcing a uniform rule.

Mr Mandla, of Caroline Close, Sandwell Valley, West Bromwich, said that if his son agreed to the head's terms it would be regarded as an act of disgrace and cowardice by the Sikh community.

The school say that Sikhs are a religious, and not a racial group, and discrimination on religious grounds is not unlawful. They also maintain that adherence to school rules is sufficiently important to refuse the boy admission.

The hearing continues today.

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back-up services so essential to our business, and ensured that we could deliver on time.

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ECGD

INSURANCE FOR BRITISH EXPORTERS.

HOME NEWS

BR getting families off the road for their leisure journeys

By Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent

British Rail has scored a big success in winning traffic back from the private car with its new family railcard.

More than a million journeys have been made in the first nine months of the scheme and rail managers predict that within five years it will be transferring some 500 million passenger miles a year from road, with a revenue gain of £25m for British Rail and petrol savings for the country of about 16 million gallons a year.

The family railcard, costing £16 for a year's unlimited travel, permits spouse and up to four children to travel for 50p each in the company of one full fare-paying adult. It differs from the other two railcard schemes for students and pensioners, by aiming at a market with a high level of car ownership and accustomed to car use.

Of more than 60,000 families to invest so far, BR's market research shows the typical case to be a family of two adults and two children, using the card once every six to eight weeks over distances of 200 to 250 miles.

Of 1,300,000 journeys under the scheme, 33 per cent would have been by train anyway; but 28 per cent of travellers would not have made the journey at all, 24 per cent would have gone by car, and 12 per cent by coach.

17% fares rise sought by British Caledonian

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

In an effort to keep pace with rising operational costs, British Caledonian applied yesterday to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to increase its domestic fares by 17 per cent.

The increase would take effect from April 1 and would make the single fare between London and Glasgow or Edinburgh £49, compared with £42 at present. British Caledonian is also applying for an off-peak single fare between London and Edinburgh of £20.

Earlier this week the Civil Aviation Authority received applications from most British airlines for increases in domestic fares averaging 12.5 per cent. The applications cited rising costs, particularly fuel and airport charges.

British Airways asked for the single fare between London and Belfast to be raised from £38 to £43, and for that between London and Manchester to go up from £27 to £33.

Green beacons on doctors' cars in an emergency

By Our Motoring Correspondent

Doctors will be able to use flashing or rotating green beacons on their cars when answering emergency calls under regulations laid before Parliament yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Minister of Transport. The regulations will come into operation on February 28.

Mr Fowler said yesterday: "By making doctors' cars more easily recognizable we will be helping them to reach emergency cases more quickly. I hope motorists will be as responsive to the flashing green beacon as they are now to the traditional blue flashing light."

Doctors' cars using green beacons will not be given high speed priority or any legal immunity from observing their speed limits or traffic signals. The regulations will also allow blue beacons on vehicles carrying human tissues for transplanting or similar purposes and amber beacons on vehicles owned by the Board of Customs and Excise and used for testing fuels.

Refitting nuclear submarine starts

Refitting Swiftsure, the nuclear submarine, will begin in six weeks after a 12-month delay at Devonport naval base over piecework rates and shift hours.

Preliminary work will start as the submarine lies in dock. The refit is expected to be completed by the spring of 1982.

Whitelaw reply on abductor of girls

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, replied yesterday to a call by a judge for an investigation into why the Home Office ignored a probation officer's report that a man should be returned to jail four months before he abducted two young girls.

Judge Meurig Evans said at Mold Crown Court, Clwyd, on Monday that he echoed the probation officer's thoughts that John Victor Subrenski aged 64, father of five children, should not be released "as long as his health and strength lasts".

Mr Whitelaw agreed yesterday in a written answer to a parliamentary question by Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for West Flint, that in May, 1979, Mr Subrenski's supervising officer reported that his attitude to supervision had been unsatisfactory and suggested that his licence should be revoked, if only for a limited period, to impress on him the need to comply fully with his obligations under the supervision conditions of his licence. There was no suggestion of immediate danger to the public requiring emergency action," Mr Whitelaw said.

Mr Subrenski was convicted in 1957 for indecently assaulting a girl aged eight and raping another aged nine, and was sentenced to life imprisonment. In April, 1976, the Parole Board's recommendation that he should be released was accepted. Mr Subrenski was released on April 29, 1977.

The court at Mold was told that the two girls, aged seven and eight, were saved from permanent harm by a young couple who followed Mr Subrenski's car and told the police. He was jailed for four years.

Mr Whitelaw said yesterday that after receiving the supervising officer's report, the case was considered by a panel of the Parole Board on June 22. "The panel decided that they were not satisfied that recall was justified but that Mr Subrenski should be warned that if he continued to behave in the same way he could expect his licence to be revoked. The Home Secretary was under the 1967 Act bound by that decision."

On September 7 the Home Office was informed that Mr Subrenski had been charged with abducting two small girls and had been remanded in custody until the following day. His licence was immediately revoked.

Mr Whitelaw said: "Mr Subrenski will continue to be detained under his licence for as long as is judged to be necessary. This will be until the Home Secretary of the day is satisfied as it is reasonably possible that he no longer presents a risk to children."

Garage complaints rise

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

Complaints about new and used cars have increased steadily over the past two years despite the Motor Industry Code of Practice, according to the Office of Fair Trading.

Mr Gordon Borrie, director general of fair trading, said yesterday: "Overall, there appears to have been little significant improvement in the code's operation in the past two years."

Mr Borrie added that there was evidence that consumers were likely to be better off

dealing with code members than non-members.

He was commenting on a survey by his office of British garages in which the performance of 216 code members was compared with that of 84 non-code members. The only significant improvement since 1977 was that more used-car dealers were making efforts to verify a vehicle's mileage.

The Motor Agents' Association, which supports the code, said yesterday that members had failed to observe the code it would continue to do all in its power to bring them into line.

Dublin director accused of kidnapping

Colin Patrick McIvor, aged 50, managing director of a weaving firm was remanded in custody for a week by magistrates at Stockport, Greater Manchester, yesterday accused of kidnapping Lady Sugden, the wife of the chief executive of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Mr McIvor, of Upper Ely Place, Dublin, was accused of unlawfully stealing and carrying away Lady Sugden against her will.

He faces a further charge of demanding £50,000 from the Co-operative Society. Mr McIvor is married and has a son, aged 61, who lives with his wife at Old Wool Lane, Cheshire, near Stockport.

Independent television in shift to factual material

By Kenneth Gossling

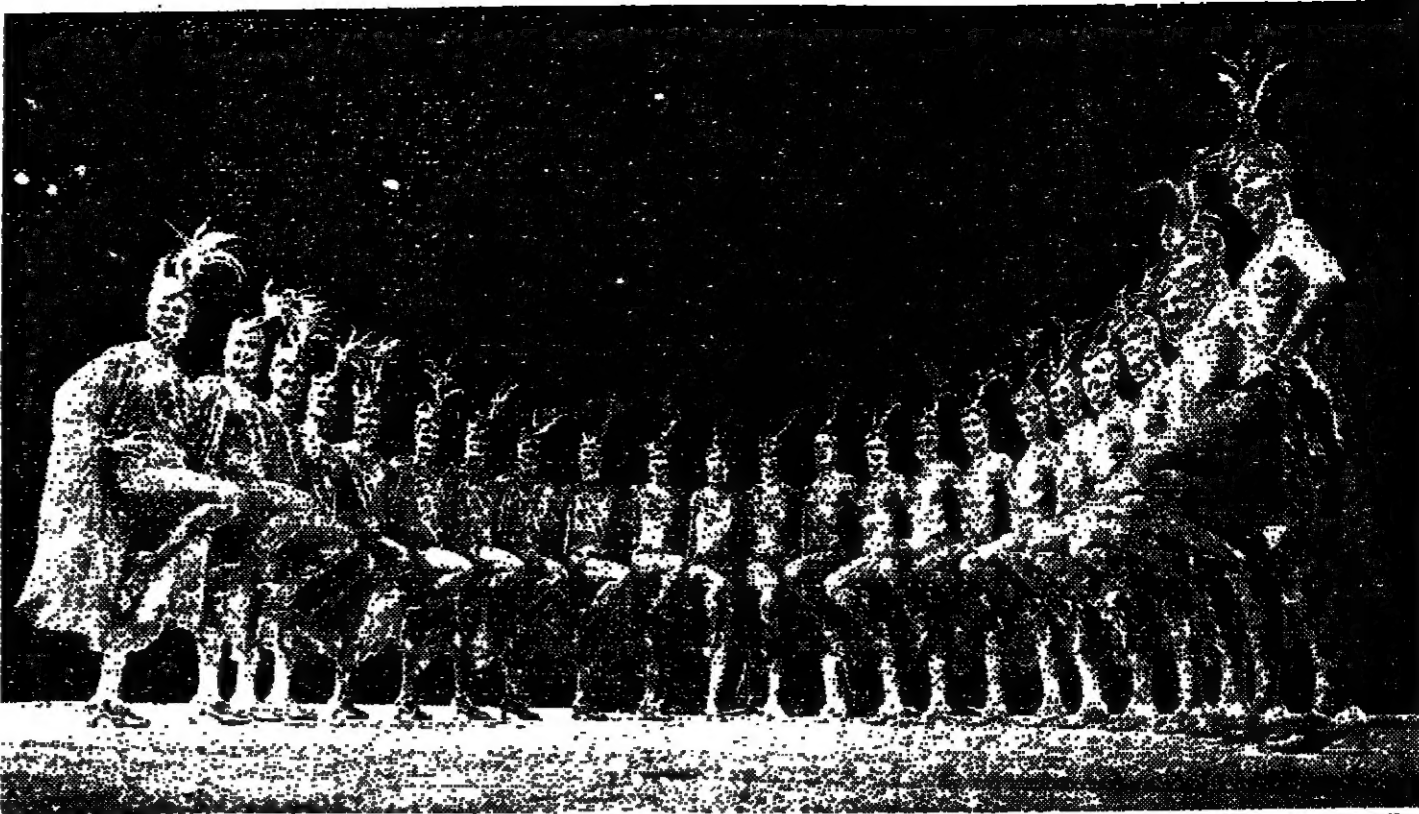
A shift in the type of programmes shown by the independent television companies towards more informative or factual material is noted in the Independent Television Authority's year book for 1980.

The shift was reflected both in the overall schedule and during the main viewing hours of the evening, the authority says.

"More local news and current affairs programmes are being made by the individual programme companies specifically for their own viewers, particularly in the larger ITV areas."

Two other changes are noted: Less acquired material is being shown in particular the fewer programmes from the United States and slightly fewer feature films; and the source of ITV's own production is widening and more programmes from the larger "regional" companies are being seen in other parts of the country.

Programmes of fact and information account for more than



Well-tuned machine: Anachronistic in their wholeness, the Rockettes of Radio City, New York, danced their energetic way into the affections of Londoners yesterday (Trevor Fishlock writes). They are cheerful, long-legged ladies who earn their living by dressing in exiguous iridescent costumes,

shiny stockings and silvery shoes (as well as jaunty feathers in their caps) and who wheel their way around the stage of the Radio City Music Hall in New York, kicking up their legs in unison. They have been doing this for half a century and have become an American institution. Connoisseurs of

the high-kicking art regard them as entirely non-erotic: the Rockettes are seen as a well-tuned machine, a relic of an age of stricter mores. Yesterday they were giving their high-stepping all at the Albert Hall with the aim of persuading more Britons to visit New York.

Photograph by Harry Kerr

More young people confirmed

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Indications of a gradual change in fortune for the Church of England are contained in the latest set of church statistics, published today, which appear to show a reversal of the long-term trend towards contraction. The latest figures refer to 1978, but church statisticians feel that the general direction has been sustained since then.

For the first time since at least 1960, the rate of confirmations per thousand of the 12 to 20 age group has gone up rather than down, and that result, though a little obscure, is considered to be a key indicator of what is happening. The total number of confirmations started to rise in 1976, and maintained improvement in the two following years (see accompanying graph). A second crucial indicator of the state of the church is the number of ordinations to the priesthood,

which has also risen each year since 1976.

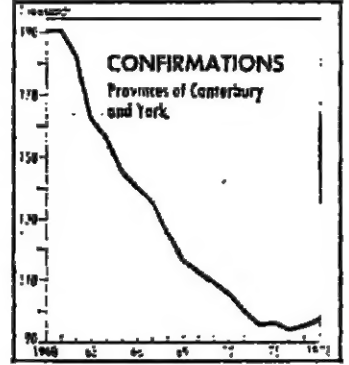
The difficulty of assessing religious statistics is shown, however, by the Anglican ordination figures for 1973 and 1974. Rises in those years were prematurely hailed as the beginning of a more optimistic trend, but that was reversed in the two subsequent years. The general pattern, as far as it

can be detected at the beginning of 1980, gives grounds for a more confident optimism than in 1973, for all the churches.

The Church of England still has considerable difficulties in maintaining itself, however, and the statistics show an imbalance in the age structure of the ministry.

According to a study in July, 1979, there were 8,128 full-time parochial clergy under 60 and 2,439 over 60. That statistical "bulge" of elderly clergymen will be retiring in the next decade at a rate far in excess of the likely rate of recruitment, even if that continues its upwards trend.

A further imbalance in the age structure appears in middle age, with 1,514 clergy aged between 40 and 45 compared with only just over a thousand in the 30 to 35 group and about 1,200 in the 55 to 60 age group. There are fewer than 500 clergy in the 25 to 30 age group.



MP accuses Government over welfare foods

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Government is saving £125m by deliberately refusing to tell poor working families of their right to free welfare foods, according to Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead.

Only 2.5 per cent of the 1,500,000 eligible families claim to benefit, yet the Department of Health and Social Security will be spending less on advertising this year.

"On a very conservative estimate the Government is saving £125m by not publicizing this benefit," Mr Field says in a statement released today.

"But it is a false saving. If we are going to reduce poverty, we must reduce mortality among the poorest families as well as reduce infant health, we need to see that the working poor claim this benefit to the full."

Mr Field wrote to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for

Social Services, urging him to mount a campaign to increase the proportion of working families claiming free welfare foods and to extend the maternity grant to those now ineligible.

Replying, Mr Reg Prentice, Minister for Social Security, deplored the "wide social class differences in mortality and infant mortality" in Britain, but said there was some comfort in the reductions in mortality rates for all social class groups. The Government was "proceeding with its study on the implications of extending the maternity grant."

But he ruled out any further advertising of free welfare foods, whose budget for 1979-80 was £22,000, compared with £23,000 the previous year. Instances had always been few of poorer families claiming welfare foods who did not receive the benefit automatically because they were already claiming either supplementary benefit or family income supplement.

'French threat' to doorstep milk deliveries

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government should safeguard doorstep milk deliveries for as long as possible, Mr Stephen Roberts, chairman of the Milk Marketing Board, said yesterday.

A decline in deliveries, the board believes, would mean a fall in consumption, smaller returns to dairy farmers, job losses in the 40,000-member delivery system and the closure of some dairies.

In evidence to the House of Commons select committee on agriculture, Mr Roberts said he believed doorstep deliveries were under threat, especially from imported French milk, although the threat was "some way off".

In a memorandum to the committee, the board says that "sooner or later" legal barriers in the form of health regulations that effectively prevent milk being imported, will disappear, and the potential supply "will be vast, especially in summer".

The French have been attempting to export milk to Britain since 1977, but they have been prevented from doing so by British health regulations on packaging.

The board argues that if milk is imported for sale through shops and supermarkets, it will be cheaper than delivered milk, with the possibility of a price war and milk being used as a loss-leader as it is in some other EEC countries.

Delivery costs would rise as shops took a greater share of sales, widening the price gap and leading to a progressive erosion of milk rounds.

Because consumers would not want to carry large amounts of milk from shops, the board believes sales would fall. Even if they did not, jobs would be lost in the distribution system

with few extra jobs coming from higher shop sales.

Consumers who could buy from shops would benefit from cheaper prices. But others such as the elderly, families with small children and poor people would face higher delivery costs.

The board says that it recognizes that within the EEC there are difficulties in ensuring that imported liquid milk is permanently excluded.

Although first imports are likely to be "long-life" milk, which enjoys limited popularity in Britain, improved processing, packaging and transport mean that imports of pasteurized milk cannot be ruled out.

The board believes that long-life milk from France could be sold in shops at or below the doorstep price. The 15p increase on most milks due on February 17 would "clearly make imports highly competitive".

MPs call for new Civil Defence organization

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Seveny MPs had by yesterday signed an early day motion in the Commons urging the Government to reconstitute the Civil Defence Corps, or something similar to it.

One of the signatories, Miss Janet Fookes, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake, said yesterday: "We are living in a dangerous world. I am a hawk as far as the Soviet Union is concerned. I don't trust their Government at all."

With the flagrant invasion of Afghanistan, Britain had to look to its defences to a greater extent, including protection for protecting civilians, Miss Fookes said.

When she visited China two years ago, one of the towns she saw had a network of tunnels ready to take the civilian population at time of attack.

Miss Fookes said she had always been interested in civil defence and was kept in touch with developments by an area officer of the Devon Emergency Volunteers, who operated from Plymouth's civil centre.

Among the MPs to sign the motion were Mr Robert Adkins (Conservative, Preston, North), Mr John Lee (Conservative, Nelson and Colne), Viscount Cranbourne (Conservative, Dorset, South), Mrs Peggy Fearn (Labour, Weymouth, Rockingham and Chatham), Mr David Trippier (Conservative, Rossendale) and Mr Robin Squire (Conservative, Havering, Northchurch).

A nationwide voluntary organization, Civil Aid, is to issue survival leaflets, details of which will be disclosed next week.

The organization has 45 branches in the United Kingdom and covers in its training all the subjects necessary for civil defence and dealing with disasters. It has submitted a plan to ministers and urges that the booklet *Protect and Survive* and other leaflets be made freely available to the public. Details of *Protect and Survive* were given in *The Times* yesterday, although it has not been released to the public.

Civil Aid has as its vice-presidents Lord Shawcross, Lord Renton, Air Chief Marshal Sir William Macdonald, Lady Rodsoll, General Sir Gordon MacMillan of MacMillan and Lord Clifford of Chudleigh.



Comedian's arthritis: Eric Morecambe was serious for a few minutes yesterday when he received a cheque for £5,000 on behalf of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, for research into rheumatism and arthritis, and disclosed that he had begun to suffer from arthritis. He said: "I am petrified about it". He presented the cheque on behalf of the order of the Imperial Society of Knights Bachelor. Mr Morecambe was soon joking again with Sister Leonora Fahey, aged 27.

Boy tricked bank cashiers with outdated notes

From Our Correspondent Brighton

A boy, aged 15, said to be brighter than average, who tricked bank cashiers into paying him £3,500 for worthless Brazilian banknotes, was fined £200 and placed on probation for two years at Brighton Juvenile court yesterday. He admitted 19 offences of theft or attempted theft.

The court was told that the boy found the old notes in his attic. He used them as "toy money" in family card games before changing them for sterling at banks in London, Sussex, Surrey and Kent.

Cashiers did not notice that the Brazilian cruzeiro notes were of a type that went out of circulation four years ago. The boy was said to have spent most of the money on London friends out for taxi rides to pop concerts. The police recovered only £850.

Mr Andrew Radcliffe, for the defence, said the boy went off the rails after his father died.

M1 bridge demolition

A footbridge over the M1 at the Rotherthorpe service area, Northamptonshire, is to be pulled down tomorrow. Traffic will be diverted.

Scientologists lose extradition plea

Two senior officials of the Church of Scientology at East Grinstead, Sussex, were refused leave yesterday to appeal to the House of Lords against orders for their extradition to the United States to face burglary charges.

The United States Government alleges that scientologists in the United States, acting on instructions from Mrs Jane Kember and Mr Morrison Budlong at East Grinstead, broke into offices in Washington of the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Justice.

The burglars used government material to take photocopies of documents relating to the Church of Scientology and its adherents.

Mrs Kember, a British sub-

ject, and Mr Budlong, an American, argued that they were engaged in an attempt to change the policy of the United States Government towards scientology and that the burglaries were committed towards that end.

for Mrs Kember and Mr Budlong, told a House of Lords Appeal Committee that the burglaries had merely involved going into public premises and taking away photocopying paper worth \$100 or less. What the United States Government was concerned about was the information which the photocopying paper had on it, internal, secret or confidential.

Later at the High Court, Mrs Kember and Mr Budlong were granted bail of £10,000 each pending their petition.

PUBLIC AUCTION at SHORT NOTICE

AIRFREIGHT WAREHOUSE HEATHROW AIRPORT
Balance of a late Arrival Contracted Order

HIGH QUALITY VALUABLE
PERSIAN AND AFGHAN CARPETS
AND FINE HANDMADE RUGS OF

OTHER ORIGINS
Ordered in 1979 for contracted delivery November 1979
through Brokers for London Importers Seasonal Sale

Due to internal strife in Iran and intermittent closure of
Tehran Customs the bales of Persian rugs could not be
moved on contracted dates and were finally airfreighted to
Amsterdam to join other bales for transhipment to London.

AUCTION AT THE WAREHOUSE OF AIRFREIGHT AGENTS
LEP AIR LTD.

Northumberland Close, Stanwell, Staines, Middx.
(Turn off Great West Road (A30) into Stanwell Road (follow signs)
Northumberland Close is situated off Stanwell Road.)

Auction Five Bales - Piece by Piece
SUNDAY, 10th FEBRUARY, 11.00 a.m. / VIEW 10.00 a.m.

TERMS: CASH OR CERTIFIED CHEQUES
Douglas Jackson, Hammond & Co., Auctioneers.

WEST EUROPE

Farm price proposals will put up British food costs by £150m

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, Feb 7

An increase in the minimum prices guaranteed to the EEC's eight million farmers of between 1.5 and 3.5 per cent for 1980-81 was announced today by Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, the Commissioner for Agriculture.

It is estimated that this would put up consumer prices by 0.1 per cent and food prices in the shops by 0.8 per cent. This suggests an increase of about £150m in consumer expenditure on food in Britain.

The lowest increases are reserved for milk and sugar, the two products in biggest surplus in the Community. A 1.5 per cent rise is also proposed for beef but this is partly offset by a new subsidy to encourage specialized beef production.

Mr Gundelach made clear that no price rises could be justified at all for milk and sugar unless these increases were coupled with related measures to curb over-production in these two sectors which consume more than half of all agricultural expenditure.

These proposals form a whole. "If one element is rejected, then we would have to reconsider the whole package," he declared. However, he declined to give an assurance that the Commission would withdraw its proposals if member-states did not accept his view.

In addition to an existing 1.5 per cent tax on milk producers, Mr Gundelach has proposed a penalty tax of more than 80 per cent on all milk deliveries to dairies in excess of 99 per cent of last year's total.

In effect, this means that dairies would have to meet the full cost of disposing of this excess so that increased production would be made uneconomic. If agreed, it would be the most step ever taken by the EEC to restrain dairy production.

There will be fierce opposition from many member-states, and not least from Britain. Despite the British desire to see agricultural surpluses

curbed, the Government thinks Mr Gundelach's proposals could please British dairy producers. Another shock for Mr Peter Walker, the Agricultural Minister, is that Mr Gundelach's proposals do not envisage a renewal of Britain's wholly EEC-financed consumer subsidy on butter. At present this keeps the shop price of butter 12p to 13p a lb below what it would otherwise be, and is worth some £65m to the Exchequer.

Mr Gundelach said that it would be difficult to justify this subsidy in the current climate of budgetary stringency.

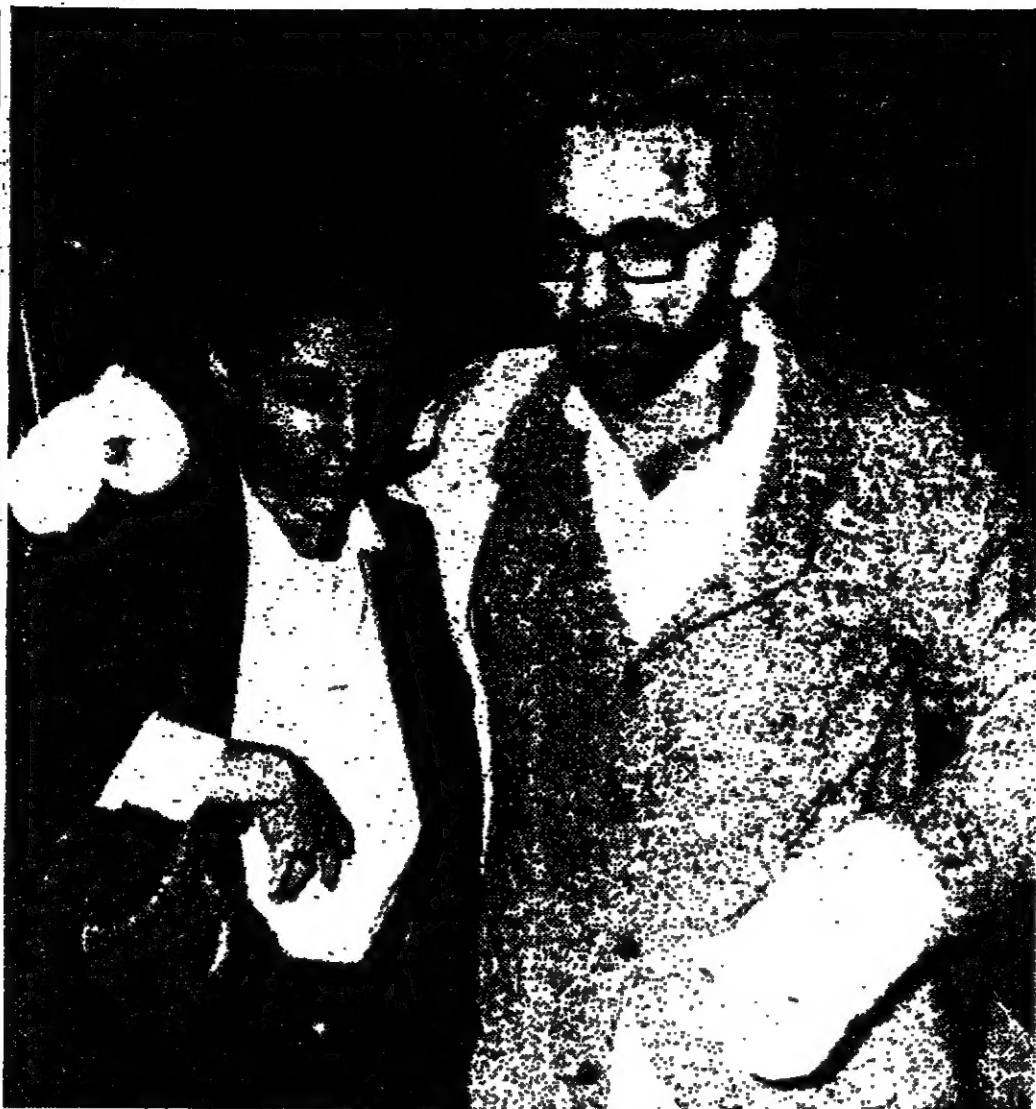
In the sugar sector, where production exceeds consumption, Mr Gundelach is proposing to reduce the amounts of sugar production covered by price guarantees by some 7 per cent below the best production levels attained in the last two years.

A fierce battle between member-states over the price proposals now lies ahead. Mr Walker has said that he does not think there should be any price increase at all for products in chronic surplus such as milk and sugar. But the French have made clear that if Britain wants any help in reducing its contribution to the EEC budget it will have to support its attack on the common agricultural policy.

Proposals attacked: The Commission's proposals were attacked as "harsh and discriminatory" by Mr Richard Butler, President of the National Farmers' Union.

The increase in farm support prices averaged about 21 per cent, he said, and "is totally inadequate when set against escalating British input costs and the severe deterioration in farm income."

The NFU firmly supported the request by Cypa, the EEC farmers' association, for a 7.9 per cent increase. "This is one of the essential measures that has to be taken if the drop in British real farm income, 25 per cent over the past two years, is to be arrested."



Señor Cáliz, assisted by his wife, enters the Red Cross hospital in Madrid.

Siege envoy feared for his life

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Feb 7

The only living survivor of the holocaust at the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala, the Ambassador Señor Maximiliano Cáliz, arrived here today, a week after the police assault on the embassy ended in tragedy.

Señor Cáliz, his hands bandaged and his voice showing evidence of strain, said that

apart from burns he was in good health.

The ambassador left a Guatemala City hospital last Friday shortly after the only other survivor—at the time—of the embassy assault and fire was abducted from the same hospital. Señor Cáliz then went to the United States Embassy in Guatemala City, where he remained in fear of assassination, until he boarded the Madrid-bound flight yesterday.

His fears seemed justified when the bullet-riddled body of the other survivor, one of the farm workers who had occupied the embassy, was dumped on the university campus.

Meanwhile, the occupation of the Spanish embassy in San Salvador which began on Tuesday continued after the authorities freed eight of the 16 prisoners whose release was demanded.

French Communists losing Socialist vote

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Feb 7

The French Communist Party has been voicing much indignation over the desertion of Socialist voters to the right-wing candidate in last Sunday's local elections at Issy-les-Moulineaux, a working class district west of Paris. The swing led to the defeat of the Communist candidate, who otherwise would have been elected.

This is by no means the first sign that moderate left-wing voters are being estranged by the feud between Socialists and Communists, and the latter's increasing alignment on Moscow's foreign policy.

The Issy-les-Moulineaux results are highly significant. The Left polled more than 62 per cent of the votes in the first ballot, and dropped to less than 44 per cent in the second. More than 700 Socialist votes, or one third of those cast in the first ballot, failed to switch to the Communist candidate.

The Communist candidate, M. Guy Ducolonne, in the second. The Giscardian candidate won by a majority of more than 1,600 votes, whereas in 1977, he had only scraped through with 44.

L'Humanité, the Communist organ, pinned the blame on the Socialists' anti-Communist campaign. Once again, it said, the Socialists bore full responsibility for the victory of the candidate of the right.

However the Socialist Party retorted that the real cause was the Communists' shilly-shally to the east. A statement by its national secretary last week said this was responsible for the defeat of five Socialist candidates in recent local elections.

And M. Pierre Bérégovoy, a member of the secretariat, insisted that M. Marchais, the Communist Secretary General, and his party leadership had "chosen a return to the haven of Soviet orthodoxy rather than

to insure the victory of a socialism of which they would not be the masters."

In the meantime, the reaction of many left-wing voters seems to be to call a plague on both the Socialists' and Communists' houses. They do not understand why the Socialist leaders, in spite of the confusing humiliations they have to endure at the hand of Communist propaganda, should persist in their loyalty to an alliance, which the Communists reject, thus insuring as they did last Friday, that for the first time in this country a Communist should be elected president of a regional assembly.

This occurred in Picardy, thanks to the unanimous backing of the Socialist and left-wing radical members of the regional council.

Ironically, in July, 1979, the outgoing president, a centrist Senator, was reelected because the Communists and Socialists could not agree to switch to the Communist candidate.

Most probably, next Sunday, in the Aube, a member of the right-wing majority will be returned to the departmental assembly in the second ballot of a by-election, although the Communist candidate led the poll in the first ballot four days ago. In this district, the Left has lost about one third of its supporters since the parliamentary elections last March.

There are increasing signs that not only Socialist voters, but also Socialist members of local assemblies are refusing to observe their party leadership's exhortations to stick to the Union of the Left with Communists, come hell or high water, and are prepared to side with the majority rather than with the supporters of M. Marchais.

This makes Le Figaro remark that the real cleavage between Right and Left is not between the Giscardian UDF and the left-wing radicals, but between Marxist and non-Marxist Socialists.

Paris film on Lenin

Moscow, Feb 7.—The Soviet Mosfilm studios are to make a film in Paris and its suburbs on Lenin's life in France. Tass reported today that Lenin was in Paris from 1908 to 1912.

No train in Spain

Madrid, Feb 7.—Spanish trains are due to come to a nationwide halt tomorrow when all 72,000 railway workers plan a 24-hour strike for better pay, the second stoppage in a week.

Hassan party returned to power in Gibraltar

From Our Correspondent

Gibraltar, Feb 7

All eight candidates of the Gibraltar Labour Party Association for the Advancement of Civil Rights led by Sir Joshua Hassan, the Chief Minister, were returned to the House of Assembly in yesterday's election. This gives them the majority of one in the 15-member house which they had sought.

The Democratic Party (DPB) led by Mr Peter Isola had six candidates returned. They will join Mr Joe Bossano, the sole elected candidate of the Gibraltar Socialist Labour Party, on the opposition benches. Mr Bossano, who was one of six candidates standing for his party, had a personal triumph in polling only 64 votes less than Sir Joshua Hassan.

The return of the Hassan Government will mean little change in Gibraltar's domestic affairs but it reflects the desire of the Gibraltarians to maintain the cautious Hassan approach to the problem of relations with Spain. Gibraltar continues to live with a closed frontier and other restrictions imposed on the Rock 12 years ago by the Franco regime in its attempt to recover the territory.

An indication of support for the Government's attitude is the fact that the three candidates of the Party for the Autonomy of Gibraltar came bottom of the poll.

This party advocated a settlement with Spain in which Gibraltar would obtain Anglo-Spanish guarantees of autonomy. The DPB leans more towards Britain and Mr Bossano is strongly of the opinion that there should not even be talks with Spain as it has no right to a say in the affairs of the Rock.

Sir Joshua Hassan will go into his next four-year term of office as Chief Minister with the continuing task of defending Gibraltar's interests whenever Britain and Spain get together to discuss the future of the 20,000 population and their territory.

Tube ready to ease Rome traffic

From Peter Nichols

Rome, Feb 7

It was a moment out of time this morning to watch the names of Rome's ancient districts go by on the radio. The names of the districts of the city are being used to mark the progress of the new underground, which the public will be able to use from Saturday of next week.

This first line runs from Anagnina in the south-east of the city to Via Ottaviano near the Vatican in the north-west. It is about ten miles long and passes under much of the most heavily populated areas of the city—and certainly some of the most densely populated in terms of motor-traffic—including the main railway station, Piazza Barberini and the Piazza di Spagna. It is estimated that it will reduce traffic above the line by 15 to 20 per cent.

It is very silent by comparison with the London Underground and much more spacious. It has few seats but room for more than 200 passengers in each of the four carriages making up the train. The lack of seats will probably be welcome to Romans, who are used to the idea that it costs much more to sit down, whether in a bar or a pizzeria. The names of the 22 stations are in themselves a beautiful thing to watch go by. It will be the same old urban desert whatever station you get out at but at least the prospect from underneath is exhilarating.

Construction of the line was authorized by law in 1958 but there have been delays ascribed to archaeological finds, cave-ins, labour problems, ecological objections, bureaucratic hitches—all of which amount to a normal Roman operation. The Socialist Democratic Minister of Transport, settled in his seat behind a high fur collar with the Signor Luigi Petroselli, the Communist Mayor, next to him. Elsewhere along the Rhine, groups and civilians laid sandbags alongside the river's banks and houses. The level of the water rose to about 27 feet above the watermark, and worse flooding was forecast for tomorrow.

French Africa expert dies in crash

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Feb 7

M René Jouriac, President Giscard d'Estaing's personal advisor on African affairs, who played a key part in the spectacular French moves in Africa in the past three years, died last night in an air crash. He was on a flight from Paris to the northern Cameroonian town of Ndjamené, en route to the private aircraft of President Bongo of Gabon with whom he was due to have talks before returning to Paris.

The pilot, Colonel Layguit, a nephew of President Bongo, and a French officer serving as flight mechanic under contract in Gabon, were also killed. No foul play is suspected.

President Giscard d'Estaing, it was announced at the Elysée Palace, was "deeply affected". M Jouriac had been his adviser since 1974, was responsible for contacts with African heads of state.

Something of a mystery man

Salt leaves bad taste in Alsace and Lorraine

From Ian Murray

Paris, Feb 7

The salt agreement, or lack of it, is clearly leaving a bad taste in the mouths of the people of eastern France. The result is that Alsace and Lorraine have fallen out.

The quarrel burst into the open today with a series of angry full-page advertisements in many of the French newspapers paid for by the French salt producers.

The trouble began early in December when the Government backed away from certain defeat in the National Assembly by withdrawing its proposal for ratification of the Bonn convention for cleaning up the Rhine.

The convention had been signed in 1978 by France and the other four countries which border the Rhine—West Germany, Switzerland, Luxembourg and Holland. It ratified by France it would have meant that salt now produced as a by-product in the Alsace potash mines would have to be pumped as brine a mile below ground.

An all-party political alliance was formed to quash this scheme which the Alsacians claimed would poison their land. Instead they pressed for a plan to build a salt plant in Alsace

with a capacity of a million tons a year.

This idea, put to the Rhine Commission on January 28, has infuriated the people of Lorraine, because Lorraine is one of the main salt-producing areas of France. They argue that if there is one commodity Europe is not short of it is salt, which is why their mines only run at three-quarters of their potential.

Salt mining in Lorraine provides good jobs in a depressed region and the fear is that an Alsatian plant would cost 1,000 of those jobs. On the other hand, Potash mining in Alsace is also a good source of jobs and the fear is that unless the pollution problem is solved the Government will shut the mines.

Paris, in fact, is known to favour the original scheme of pumping brine below ground. At the same time it seems powerless to overcome the all-party alliance against the project in the National Assembly.

Meanwhile, the Dutch who draw 65 per cent of their fresh water from the Rhine, are becoming increasingly angry about the French failure to ratify the Bonn convention.

French officials hope to present a solution to the next Rhine Commission meeting in Paris on May 9. The vociferous opposition from Lorraine makes it more difficult for them to do so.

Barriers protect Bundestag against flood

From Our Own Correspondent

Bonn, Feb 7

Steel stockades were erected beside the Bundestag here today, and pumps raised water levels in the Rhine basin.

Some parliamentary staff were evacuated from their quarters. Troops stood by with generator lorries in case the electricity failed.

Elsewhere along the Rhine, groups and civilians laid sandbags alongside the river's banks and houses. The level of the water rose to about 27 feet above the watermark, and worse flooding was forecast for tomorrow.

The towns of Koblenz, Neuwied and Speyer were flooded in parts.

German parties join battle on broadcasting

From Our Own Correspondent

Bonn, Feb 7

What promises to be a long and tough political fight over broadcasting broke out today, when the Christian Democrat Prime Minister of Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein signed a contract to transform the present North German broadcasting corporation.

The contract would restrict the Norddeutscher Rundfunk (NDR) to serving only their two Länder, leaving the third owner, Social Democrat Hamburg, to fend for itself. It would also introduce commercial broadcasting. Herr Hans-Ulrich Klose, Hamburg's mayor, described the move today as unconstitutional.

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OVERSEAS

Schlesinger call for redeployment of US forces into Indian Ocean and higher Nato defence spending

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Feb 7

Mr James Schlesinger, the former United States Defence Secretary, today called for a redeployment of American forces into the Indian Ocean and substantial increases in defence spending by Nato members to counteract the Soviet intervention of Afghanistan.

He called on West Germany to increase the number of its troops and tanks. West Germany's tank inventory, he said, was "scarcely higher than that of a Middle Eastern country".

Mr Schlesinger, a Republican, has had talks here with government and opposition politicians about the international situation. He told a press conference that although he was here as a private citizen his journey was "known to various members of the Administration".

He said he had been putting more bluntly suggestions which had been raised to the Germans indirectly by people in office.

A Defence Ministry spokesman declined to comment on his remarks. Officials pointed out, however, that although West Germany's tank inventory is not the desired target of 3 per cent increase in defence spending this year, its spending on equipment had risen by 7

per cent and other investments by 31 per cent. It had 4,000 tanks and would soon have 4,700 mostly advanced ones.

Mr Schlesinger said that steps such as a boycott of the Moscow Olympics and the grain embargo were "satisfying but strategically marginal". The balance of power in the Gulf must be redressed in the West's favour. The Atlantic alliance would eventually have to be reshaped as well. He did not explain how this should be done.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was "a warning that we should heed, which came none too soon".

They said a task group of 10 ships, commanded by a rear admiral, was steaming in the Pacific towards the Bashi Channel between Taiwan and the Philippines.

It was the most powerful Soviet naval formation ever sighted in north-east Asia, and could reach the South China Sea shortly.

The force, which includes a missile cruiser, a missile destroyer, frigates, minesweepers

and support ship, came from the Soviet Pacific Fleet headquarters in Vladivostok.

The sources said the group would be joining a Soviet force of five ships which has been in the South China Sea for some days.

Some of the ships were believed to be bound for the Indian Ocean or the Arabian Sea where 55 Soviet and American warships are confronting each other.

The United States Seventh Fleet is concentrated in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas because of the Afghan crisis and its presence in the western Pacific is drastically reduced. Admiral Robert Long, the United States Pacific commander, told the Senate Armed Services Committee in Washington yesterday that American forces in the region were spread too thinly to cover trouble spots. He called for more aircraft carriers, bases and other facilities to boost the American presence in Asia.

The Western military sources here said the United States fleet, which projects American power from Hawaii to the east coast of Africa, now had 27 ships in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas. —Reuter.

Detente—two views, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Detente not indivisible, Tass says

Continued from page 1

as in fact it was the Russians who wanted to talk to him.

But the tough tone of the summit declaration makes all this look increasingly like a ploy. The Western allies are not to be divided so easily.

Moscow immediately blamed America for exerting pressure on its Nato allies. Britain, the habitual villain, was accused of acting as Washington's go-between.

Paris and Bonn had concurred their assessments of the events in Afghanistan, Tass remarked last night, "so as not to irritate their senior Atlantic partner".

Tass said the "distorted interpretation" of the events was viewed from an American position and the French and German governments were using double standards; for the sake of solidarity with the Americans they had ignored the undeclared war on Afghanistan waged by their allies—presumably Britain and America.

Tass challenged President Carter's assertion that detente was indivisible. This, the agency said, assumed that the Russians should not support national liberation movements and should not react to any crises provoked by the West, even when Soviet security was threatened.

The Russians would not agree to Tass's view. They repeated the Soviet view that detente did not imply an end to the world class struggle. "While categorically rejecting the 'export of revolution' our country remains loyal to proletarian internationalism and class solidarity".

Tass said that in spite of class struggles that had gone on in Latin America or Africa, detente had developed, especially in Europe.

The Americans, the agency asserted, had wanted to "draw the American revolution in blood". The Russians could not remain impartial observers. But, Tass said, "the events in Afghanistan can and must not to any degree jeopardize the destinies of detente in Europe".

In Moscow's view France and West Germany no longer appear to agree with such a proposition.

Tass said detente was indivisible only in the sense that politicians in the West could not hypocritically call for a continuation of the policy and at the same time express solidarity with the United States policy of frustrating it, boycotting the Olympic Games and curbing contacts with the Soviet Union.

Mr Charles Malo, the French Ambassador to Libya, returned to Paris today, having been recalled after his embassy was sacked on Monday. Relations between the two countries are at their lowest ebb, and Tripoli radio has broadcast claims that the Sahara will become another Dien Bien Phu for France "with the bodies of thousands of soldiers exposed to the ravens and vultures".

Tunisia, which was given French air transport assistance when about 300 guerrillas attacked Gafsa, has demanded the meeting of the Arab League to Protest at "the aggression perpetrated at the instigation of the Libyan regime".

The signs are that Tunisia has approached the league after making discreet sound

Doubts in Japan over Soviet sanctions

From Our Correspondent
Tokyo, Feb 7

The position of the Japanese Government regarding the approach from the United States for a seven-nation foreign ministers conference on economic sanctions against the Soviet Union is "fluid", according to government sources.

Although there has been such an approach from Washington, sources said that the Government was not ready to make an immediate response to what involves "divergent interests" of the countries concerned.

The countries the United States has approached, according to the sources, are those represented in the summit meeting in Tokyo in 1979.

While the Government is ready to make "constructive studies" on the American position and the American approach, the sources said, as far as Japan was concerned additional adjustments on either the venue or the timing would have to be made.

The sources said the American approach offers a package of several plans besides a package conference, such as separate conferences between North America and West Europe, America and Japan, and

America, Australia and Japan. Observers in Tokyo have expressed some doubts on such a conference if it were held at all. They pointed out that the American proposed anti-Russian economic measures would affect each country according to its different interests.

They said that the "extent of impact" of such sanctions on Japan, which has "deep interests" in developments of industrial resources (such as oil, natural gas, coal and lumber) in the Far East of Russia, would be "very substantial".

Tokyo and Moscow have co-operated, largely on Japan's initiatives, on development programmes of such resources which involve monetary commitments amounting to \$1,500m.

They are designed to provide in the future a substantial portion of Japan's energy supplies which today depend on imports of up to 80 per cent of its industrial output. Observers have long pointed out that Japan needs Soviet resources more than the Soviet Union needs high-technology or money from Japan.

Tanzania security men on torture charges

From Our Correspondent
Dar es Salaam, Feb 7

Five Tanzanian police and security officers are to go on trial in the High Court on charges of torture.

Magistrates in Mwanza, western Tanzania, committed a former regional police commander, a regional security officer, and two security officers and a detective corporal for trial after inquiries into the deaths of two detainees.

The detainees were among 374 people arrested in 1976 in Mwanza for questioning after a spate of murders.

Mr Lucas Merin, assistant commissioner of police for criminal investigations, read statements to the court alleging that the two detainees died after being severely beaten and tortured by the five men.

The statements by some of the 374 people held said the five men had whipped, handcuffed and stripped prisoners in the presence of three women.

Firemen die in blaze
Mexico City, Feb 7.—Ten firemen were feared killed when a fire at an electronics equipment factory here.

who were also naked. Suspects were also forced to drink "bitter liquid".

One witness, in a statement, alleged that after release from prison he had been able to have sexual relations only once, with difficulty, because of the torture he had suffered.

Two of the accused men asked for an early trial as they had been held in remand for four years.

The investigation came after a directive by President Nyerere and the resignation of the paper said, Mr Siyovele, the Minister of State in the President's office, Mr Ali Hassan Myinyi, the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Peter Abdallah Kisumu, the Minister of Education, and Mr Marko Mabumba, the Shinyanga Regional Commissioner, who accepted ultimate responsibility for the misconduct by some police and security men.—Agence France-Press.

Attacker executed
Peking, Feb 7.—A man who stabbed a court investigator 21 times and disabled him for life has been executed in China's northernmost province of Heilongjiang.

Arab League requested to meet on Tunisian rising

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 7

Tunisia and Libya have asked for an urgent meeting of the Arab League because of last week's rising in the Tunisian mining town of Gafsa. The Libyans have also called for meetings of the Organization of African Unity, the Islamic Conference and the Organization of Non-Aligned Countries, to examine "the French invasion of Tunisia".

Mr Charles Malo, the French Ambassador to Libya, returned to Paris today, having been recalled after his embassy was sacked on Monday. Relations between the two countries are at their lowest ebb, and Tripoli radio has broadcast claims that the Sahara will become another Dien Bien Phu for France "with the bodies of thousands of soldiers exposed to the ravens and vultures".

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The signs are that Tunisia has approached the league after making discreet sound

FBI conduct of corruption inquiry angers Arabs

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 7

Arabs in America are indignant at the way the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) conducted its much publicized investigation into congressional corruption. They complain bitterly that FBI agents to impersonate Arab potentates doing out bribes amounted to grossly unfair racial stereotyping.

Dr M. T. Mehdi, the Chairman of the American-Arab Relations Committee in New York, sent a telegram to Mr Benjamin Civiletti, the Attorney General, saying the FBI's "character assassination of the Arabs" and "a defamatory act which perpetuates the traditional prejudicial view of Arabs in the United States".

He believes that the Arabs are the only ethnic group in America which now has to suffer such prejudice. Why, he asks, did the agents not impersonate an ethnic Vietnamese, a Nigerian or Israeli businessman instead of "a rich, filthy, corrupt Arab".

He said: "It is time Americans realized that Arabs are important political figures and the future of the United States is linked to the Arab countries. To destroy this relationship

has an evil purpose. The beneficiaries are the Zionists".

Arab delegates to the United Nations are similarly incensed. Mr Abdallah Bishara, the Kuwait representative, said: "It shows the ignorance which prevails in this country. They don't understand. I'm sure it wasn't done deliberately."

"The FBI thought the way to be effective was to portray a bogus Arab Shaikh whose lust for gambling and casinos is so great that he will resort to any wiles. But why is that more effective than if they had pretended to be Indian, Chinese or Spanish princes?"

"Uncouth is the word for it. They are uncouth in appealing to American ignorance and stereotypes."

"In the Arab world this is taken very seriously. When I call Kuwait they say to me: 'Why are they so insensitive?'"

Mr Gasfar Allagany, the Chief of Affairs of Saudi Arabia, said: "We are very disturbed that Arabs living in this country are stereotyped as unscrupulous people offering bribes."

The code name for the FBI operation was Abcam. This is short for Arab, scam, "scam" being a colloquial term for a confidence trick.

Olympics 'face worst crisis since 1894'

From John Hennessy
Lake Placid, Feb 7

Lord Killanin, the President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) yesterday described the crisis facing the Olympic movement as the most critical since it was revived by Baron de Coubertin in 1894.

He had just arrived here in preparation for the Winter Games to be opened next Wednesday, and was of a mind to play a dead bat to everything thrown at him. But there was no doubting the seriousness either of his mood or of his position.

Without referring specifically to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, or the United States-led call for retaliation through sport, he said that Olympic principles faced grave issues.

He was, he said, fully sensitive to the feelings of the United States National Olympic Committee, but he was also "sensitive to what can and cannot be done by the IOC".

He did not wish to prejudice what IOC members may decide when they meet in session here from Monday to Tuesday, but he maintained it was untenable, morally and legally, to bow to government pressure by moving the games. We should not allow ourselves to be dictated to by governments on where we should go.

Meanwhile, the problem of Taiwan refuses to go away. Refusing to yield to IOC instructions to change their provisional accreditation papers, a number of Taiwanese have been refused entry to the Olympic Village.

They refused to give up. The IOC is now anxiously awaiting a ruling from the court at Plattsburg near by on an application from a Taiwanese skier, Liang Ren-quay, aged 30, for an injunction to the Lake Placid games to be deferred pending a judgment on his claim of discrimination.

That is how he regards, for legal purposes at least, the IOC ruling that he should appear under the banner of the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee rather than that of the Republic of China Olympic Committee. Greek offer: Lord Killanin has said in a letter to Mr Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, that the right time for the recommendation of a permanent site for the Olympic Games, which the IOC would organise in October 1981.

Mr Karamanlis had written to Lord Killanin on January 28 offering a "neutral" site in ancient Olympia where the games were held in antiquity, in order to save the Olympic idea from politics and commercialism.

The Greek Prime Minister's letter is on the IOC's agenda for its eighty-second meeting in Lake Placid this week. But the Olympic Congress in 1981 will be attended by representatives of all recognised international federations and national Olympic committees, as well as certain governmental and non-governmental bodies. At that time, Lord Killanin stated, "we will have everyone's views".

ALI TOUR: Muhammad Ali, the former world heavyweight boxing champion, who is trying to rally black Africa behind President Carter's call for a boycott of the Olympics, encountered new trouble today when President Albaji Shehu Shagari of Nigeria changed his mind and decided not to meet him.

Nigerian officials also said they had been unable to arrange a meeting scheduled for today between Muhammad Ali and



Lord Killanin: Olympic principles face grave issues.

Nigeria's National Olympic Committee. Swedish decision: Mr Karl Frithjofsson, the director of the Swedish Sports Federation said today that Sweden would take part in the Moscow Olympics. "When the United States for many years maintained military forces in Vietnam—admittedly down from to an extent never seen before, sports exchanges continued unabated," he said.

Algeria also said it would take part. Mr Muhammad argued, the Algerian Olympic Committee chairman announced this on his departure for Lake Placid. —Reuter.

ANCIENT GREEK game, page 14

American money pours into new Israel bases

From Christopher Walker
Orda, Neger, Feb 7

It is one of the great ironies of the Middle East peace process that in order to try to prevent more fighting, vast sums of money and huge resources of human energy are being devoted to rebuilding the most sophisticated instruments of war.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in this once-empty corner of the Negev Desert where a team of 1,000 Thai labourers are transforming 6,000 acres of sand and rock into a new Israeli air base, which will cost the American Government more than \$450m (about £165m).

Under the Camp David agreement the new main Israeli fighter bases in the occupied Sinai are being relocated in the Negev, a process to be completed by April, 1982. The one being rebuilt at Orda is only 20 miles from the present base at Be'er-Sheva, which will be handed to Egypt.

"What is ruling here is emotion, not logic," said Brigadier General Moshe Bar-Tov, the Israeli joint commander. "Of course, it would have been much easier to leave things where they are, but we are looking for peace with Egypt and all our Arab neighbours."

Further to the north at Ramon, a similar exercise is being carried out with the aid of labour imported from Portugal. Both projects are under joint Israeli-American supervision and will cost together just over \$1,000m, four-fifths of which is being contributed by grants from America.

As a result of the need to avoid adding to Israeli inflation, now running at more than 100 per cent, and the desire

of the Americans to use their own companies, the involvement of Israeli labour is minimal.

At Orda, where work began last October, the new runways are little more than channels in the sand and work has only just begun on the bunkers, which will hold tons of secret electronic equipment and modern weaponry. Senior officers claim that work is proceeding to schedule, however.

"We are fighting against two contradictory factors, time and money," says General Bar-Tov. "We have to stick very closely to the budget, and at times this can make our lives very miserable."

Although the Americans have been reticent about their heavy involvement in the new bases, the extent of their commitment has been everywhere on the barren site. It ranges from the rows of white-painted mobile homes flown directly from Texas to the 700 service and civilian personnel working at Orda.

More incongruous than the scores of American military personnel are the hundreds of Thai workers swathed in heavy clothing against the biting desert winds. Only 20 per cent of the Thais speak any English and they live and eat in separate quarters with special cooks flown in from Bangkok.

Working a minimum 60-hour week, the Thai labourers earn an average of \$800 a month, much less than their Portuguese counterparts at Ramon. As well as Orda and Ramon, a third Negev airfield, so far exclusively by Israel. But work on this project has been delayed by legal action taken by several thousand Beduin living at the site, who are demanding better compensation.

Anger at outburst by Egyptian minister

From Our Own Correspondent
Jerusalem, Feb 7

Less than two weeks after the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Egypt, the Israeli Government is in a state of formal protest to Cairo. It concerns remarks made by Mr Muhammad Hassan Taha, the Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister.

Although the incident is not seen as a serious threat to the continuing normalisation of relations between the two countries, it is regarded as a reflection of intense anger felt by many Israelis at the threat of Mr Taha's statements.

These were first reported in the Kuwait newspaper Al-Siyasa, which quoted Mr Taha as describing the Jews as a "treacherous and hypocritical" people. Describing himself as "the conscience of the Egyptian revolution", the Egyptian minister also told the paper that the demise of Israel as a Jewish state "flourished in a Muslim soil" was not far off.

In the initial diplomatic confusion, it was alleged that Mr Taha had been misinterpreted. But he further infuriated the Israelis by telling an Israeli television reporter over the new direct telephone link to Cairo last night that he stood by every word of the interview.

Today, Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, described the remarks as "a flagrant contradiction of the spirit of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty."

Begin pledge of backing for Christians in Beirut

From Our Own Correspondent
Jerusalem, Feb 7

Tension in the Middle East was heightened today after an unexpected public pledge from Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, to provide military backing for right-wing Christian groups in renewed violence broke out in Beirut.

The threat of renewed Israeli intervention in Lebanon coincided with the imminent withdrawal of all Syrian troops from the "green line" which divides the Muslim and Christian sectors of Beirut.

Speaking to the Foreign Press Association, Mr Begin emphasized that Israel was committed to defend all the Christians in Lebanon, not just the militia forces in the south, already heavily supplied with Israeli money, weapons and military expertise.

"If the Christian minority, either in the south or in the north, are being attacked, Israel will not be passive as far as the danger looming over the Christian minority is concerned," Mr Begin said.

Pressed about exactly how Israel would defend the Christians in the north, Mr Begin replied tersely: "I will not go into any details and you understand why well why I refrain from it."

Israel's commitment to the south Lebanese Christians under the command of Major Saad Haddad is often reiterated, but the Prime Minister's public declaration of military backing for right-wing forces in the north took diplomatic observers by surprise.

We prevented the Christian minority, both in the north and south, from being wiped out some time ago, and we are very proud of it," Mr Begin said. "We shall not under any circumstances permit the Christian minority in Lebanon to be pogromed. . . . We have helped the Christians before, and if

they are in danger, we shall help them again."

Earlier, Mr Begin expressed concern at reports of large-scale Syrian tanks movements in Lebanon, which are regarded in political circles as connected with the official visit to Damascus last month of Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

For some weeks, Israeli military analysts have been trying to assess the motives behind Syria's redeployment of its 30,000 troops in Lebanon, and President Assad's determination to withdraw all soldiers from the capital.

As Mr Begin admitted today, no single reason for the changes has become apparent. But it is pointed out that by switching the bulk of its military strength to Lebanon's strategic Bekaa Valley, Syria could be preparing for a possible future confrontation with Israel or the need to quell political discontent at home.

The Israeli Prime Minister firmly denied suggestions that Israel "was or is" planning an attack against Syria, describing the allegations as "baseless".

"But, of course, when there are big troop movements we have to be careful."

No clarification was available about the precise circumstances in which a new Israeli military operation would be conducted in support of Lebanese Christians. But, as has been proved before, the Lebanese capital is in easy striking distance of Israeli aircraft.

As well as a recent upsurge of tension in Beirut, there has been increasing violence in south Lebanon in recent weeks. The regular artillery battles between Palestinian and Christian militias have risen both in number and intensity, and last month Major Haddad claimed on Israeli radio that Syrian troops were within a few miles of his lines.

Australian success in test tube fertilization

From Douglas Altan
Melbourne, Feb 7

Australia's first test tube baby due to be born in four months, will be the result of an eight-year, \$A1.2m programme involving 40 Melbourne specialists.

The mother-to-be is Mrs Linda Reed, aged 26, a nurse from the country town of Churchill, east of Melbourne. She is the wife of a school teacher, and already has one child.

A laboratory-fertilized embryo has been transferred back into the uterus and Mrs Reed is now five months into a healthy pregnancy. Doctors are convinced that the baby will be normal. They know its sex but are keeping it secret.

Neither are they releasing the name of a second woman, with two previous children, who is carrying a child conceived in the laboratory in December.

The team of specialists is led by Mr Ian Johnston, of the Royal Women's Hospital, and Dr Alex Luykx, of the national executive of the Labour Party today decided to support an appeal to Labour Party members for money to aid the campaign of the Patriotic Front (George Clark, our Political Correspondent, writes).

that fertilization outside the body may become routine within five years.

The Melbourne technique involved a "womb within a womb" according to Dr Lopata. The outer womb is a temperature and humidity controlled incubator, the inner a protective glass jar.

Dr Lopata said: "The embryo is developed in the protective environment in a test tube for three days. It is then transferred to the womb when it reaches the eight-cell state."

The Melbourne team has developed new life-supporting fluids which reproduce the environment within a woman's body and has devised a new instrument to insert the fertilized egg into the womb.

In 1970, Professor Wood, one of the members of the team, told a scientific meeting about unsuccessful attempts to develop artificial Fallopian tubes. Blocked or damaged Fallopian tubes are responsible for about half of all female infertility. Dr Neil Moore, an animal reproductive biologist, was at the meeting and suggested bypassing the tubes by fertilization outside the body.

A team was assembled and each year between 1975 and 1978 there were up to 50 attempts. After the British success, Melbourne scientists visited Britain and returned with information that changed the course of their work. They abandoned hormone therapy and instead relied on the natural body cycle.

OVERSEAS

Bolshoi defections bring to light long-running quarrel over 'stiflingly conservative' repertoire

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, Feb 7. Shortly after the defection of Alexander Godunov, the Bolshoi ballet star, and two fellow dancers last summer, the Bolshoi company went to America; the Maly returned.

The two worlds, both names of Moscow theatres, mean big and small.

But with the defection yesterday of two more members of the company, including one of the world's most distinguished ballet teachers, the joke has gone sour. The 204-year-old Bolshoi, the cultural jewel of Russia, seems to be tearing itself apart.

Sulamith Messerer, the 71-year-old former ballet star, and her 31-year-old son, Mikhail, said they left for the United States because they lacked artistic freedom in the Soviet Union and despaired of life there.

But the dictatorship Sulamith Messerer, who once danced for Stalin, found intolerable was not that of the Soviet Government or its functionaries.

It was the dictatorship of a man who has been at the centre of the bitter feud that has brought the company to the verge of collapse: Yuri Grigorovich, the brilliant, austere, autocratic chief choreographer and artistic director of the Bolshoi.

Things have been festering at the Bolshoi for several years as criticisms of the pale 53-year-old director mounted. They ranged from accusations of favouritism and petty personal blacklisting of promising dancers to the dislike of the more fundamental ones that Mr Grigorovich, in spite of his many triumphs over the past 14 years, was stifling the Bolshoi with a conservative repertoire, a lack of innovation and a stifling of the company's formidable talents.

Mr Grigorovich's latest staging of *Romeo and Juliet* evoked bitter criticism—echoed by those who saw it in the West. Five leading Bolshoi dancers, headed by Maya Plisetskaya, the aging but still influential prima ballerina, demanded that the old version should be retained.

Miss Plisetskaya has refused to dance in any of the last summer's productions for the past four years. And on a recent overseas tour many of the company's best dancers would not accompany Mr Grigorovich.

But after the defections last summer, the first in the Bolshoi's history, though some leading dancers have left the Kirov in Leningrad, the quarrel broke out into the open.

Ranged against Mr Grigorovich were Miss Plisetskaya, a leading male dancer, Vladimir Vasiliev, and his wife, Yekaterina Maximova, also a star; Marius Liepa, the magnificent Latvian actor-dancer whose performances in *Khachaturian's Spartacus* are unrivalled; and Mikhail Lavrovsky, a male lead



Yuri Grigorovich: At centre of a feud at the Bolshoi.

and son of Mr Grigorovich's predecessor.

The defections shook the Soviet Government as well as the public, especially as the Lyudmila Vlasova, on board an aircraft at Kennedy Airport developed into a serious political crisis between the Soviet Union and America.

Pyotr Demichev, the Soviet Minister of Culture, was ordered by the Politburo to sort things out. He appointed Mr Yuri Barabash, his deputy, to take charge, and on October 4 a far-reaching meeting was held in the Bolshoi Theatre, where Mr Grigorovich, recovering from a stomach ailment, faced his critics.

The atmosphere was one of unprecedented tension and hostility. The anti-Grigorovich faction, represented only by Miss Plisetskaya, was joined, significantly, by members of the famous Messerer family. The veteran choreographer, teacher and former dancer Asaf Messerer, now 76 and brother of Sulamith, criticised the stale repertoire and called for other choreographers besides Mr Grigorovich.

Mr Grigorovich denied there was any split in the company and virtually threatened to force his opponents to retire. Miss Plisetskaya, a place of Sulamith Messerer, who some Russians say is getting too old for a prima ballerina, rose to denounce Mr Grigorovich, and shocked the meeting by calling him a liar.

The Deputy Minister of Culture ordered an end to the meeting and to all further quarrels.

The actual director of the Bolshoi, Mr Stanislav Lushin, who was appointed less than a year ago, has appeared bewildered in the face of this discord, and has not been able to take the company in hand.

Many people expected after the defections last year that Mr Grigorovich would be dismissed. But he has done much for the Bolshoi. A former dancer and

ballet master at the Leningrad Kirov, he staged the much acclaimed version of *Spartacus* in 1968, and has given the conservative Moscow public the works it has wanted to see.

But the Bolshoi is a demoralized company now. The programme changes frequently at the last minute. Neither the dancers nor the public know from day to day which cast will perform. Mr Grigorovich decides who shall dance and when.

Sometimes performances are extraordinarily poor. Last night, for example, two of the leading dancers failed to appear in a performance at the vast Palace of Congress in the Kremlin, the alternative site to the ornate gilt and plush theatre which is the company's home.

Whether it has any knowledge of the defections or not, the performance was so lacking in lustre that a male lead nearly dropped one ballerina and one ballerina almost toppled over.

The drastic solution of defection adopted by five of the company has only increased the difficulties for the others.

Foreign tours have already been cut back, and the security vetting of all those chosen to go abroad is intense. A number of leading dancers have been turned down. And because a dozen dancers were refused permission to go to Japan for the present tour, Vladimir Vasiliev and Yekaterina Maximova, who were to have led the 50-strong troupe, refused to go.

To the Russians, intensely proud of their world-famous ballet, these defections are shameful, to the authorities they are more than that—they are high treason, for which the maximum penalty is death and the minimum 10 years' imprisonment.

Nevertheless, the authorities realize that the Bolshoi defections are not, as the media insisted, because the Americans offered "mountains of gold and a sea of whisky". And they are now in a quandary what to do about the well-substantiated report that Mr Godunov, temperamental and unhappy in America, wants to come home.

The Supreme Soviet itself is said to be considering this request. If he did return, in a public display of disillusion, the propaganda coup would be immense. But if he returned without any sanctions, the precedent for other would-be defectors would be disastrous.

In one way the present political crisis between the Soviet Union and the West has made it easier to cut back on foreign tours without seeming to punish the Bolshoi particularly. But the Soviet authorities are as concerned to bring peace to the mighty company to ensure its artistic survival and renaissance as to stop even more members slipping away overseas.

Vietnamese troops move towards Thai border

From Neil Kelly

Camp Reahou, Kampuchea, Feb 7.

Vietnamese soldiers are now parading to within a mile of the Thai border as military activity increases in western Kampuchea.

Ten mortar shells fell on this camp of about 100,000 Free Khmer soldiers last week, killing a man and a woman and wounding 12 others. Camp leaders said the mortars had been fired from about a mile away.

They also said three groups of Vietnamese troops each numbering 500 or 600 were converging on the camp from the north-east, the east and the south-east.

A few miles north of here automatic fire was audible today on the edges of another Free Khmer settlement near Thai border town of Non Samet. Mr. In Sakhan, the camp administrator said about 400 Vietnamese troops were less than three miles away.

He said his troops had killed 10 Vietnamese soldiers in clashes in the past week. Four of his men were wounded but none was killed.

Meanwhile, a senior Thai military officer said today that guerrillas of the ousted Khmer Rouge regime had reoccupied a large area of Phnom Chat about seven miles from here.

Vietnamese troops wrested Phnom Chat from the Khmer Rouge last month.

Both the Thai Army and the Khmer Rouge say that Vietnamese troops, tanks and other equipment closer to the border and are regrouping their forces for more effective attacks on Khmer Rouge and other resistance fighters.

The Free Khmer leaders say that Vietnamese policy is to draw them away from the Thai border by flanking movements which will force them deeper into Kampuchea. There, according to leaders at Camp Reahou, "they mean to kill us all".

The leaders said that 1,000 Vietnamese, both soldiers and civilians, had defected to them in the past five months. "The Vietnamese come to us, surrender their weapons and tell us they don't want to fight any more," they said.

Three Vietnamese arrived in the camp four days ago after a journey by lorry from the Vietnamese border.

Mr Phan Van Sam, who said he was 30, explained that he had decided to leave Phnom with his 27-year-old daughter because the authorities were trying to force him to serve again in the Army.

Miss Trinh Thu Huong, aged 21, said she wanted to join her father in California where he worked for a television production company.

SPORT

Cricket

England extras in a TV show

From John Woodcock

Cricket Correspondent
Melbourne, Feb 7

The England cricketers will leave for tomorrow evening for Bombay with mixed feelings. While pleased to be heading for home, they are equally anxious to have done themselves justice in the Test series against Australia.

Their relative success in the one-day competition, in which they reached the final ahead of Australia, is some compensation, but not much.

It was to help out an old friend, namely the Australian Cricket Board, that England went on the tour. It has been well worth while, regardless of the results of the Test series and the frequently disastrous behaviour of the Australian crowds.

The inflammatory remarks of Ray Steele, treasurer of the Australian Board, who launched the tour, regarding the TCCB's refusal to put the Ashes at stake, and England's determination to keep the one-day cricket as unadorned as possible, became a scapegoat. Being the philosopher he is, I think, upstaged the tour.

Speaking for myself, in 30 years of touring Australia with England I have met nothing so consistent and humbly aggressive as the campaign against Brearley.

Apart from Brearley, whose reputation as a thinking captain has been in no way diminished, the best results on the tour have been in the corridors of cricket. It was a mistake not to

choose Gooch for the first Test match; Botham should have made more runs than he did; and Boycott should not have said some of the things that he did—but they all played some good cricket.

The morning for the way he has applied himself to the game, it is not possible to say. As yet, he is said of Gower.

When the side went to Western Australia for the first Test match, England were on top of the world. Having just beaten Australia in the one-day matches, hopes were high of an English victory in the Test series. Some lamentable batting on the last day cost England that match in Perth, just as some lamentable groundsmanship cost them the second Test in Sydney; yet by the end of the tour Australia were well established as the better side. A margin of 3-0 to Australia may have been misleading, but so was 3-1 in England a year ago.

The virtues of the Facker players was always bound to strengthen Australia. Several of them, individually, have not been good, but the combination of them, as the Chappells was enough, of itself, to cause a great upheaval in the cricket world.

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Golf

In-form Green seeks third Hawaii Open victory

From Peter Ryde

Honolulu, Feb 7

Tom Watson leads a strong contingent competing in the fifth event of the American spring tour, the Hawaii Open at the Mauna Kea Golf Club.

The flight time from the mainland may be all of five hours but inducements are not lacking. All the prize money is in cash, and the weather is generally more reliable than on the Californian coast and the islands are more attractive for wives than the general run of venues. The prize money is better than average, with a first prize just above the £25,000 mark.

The tournament is a 72-hole, pro-am and amateurs paying \$900 to play, the sponsors find it hard to make both ends meet. The prize money is better than average, with a first prize just above the £25,000 mark.

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Snooker

Spencer stays in position with a touch of class

By Sydney Friskin

John Spencer, a former world professional snooker champion, produced a touch of class to beat Eddie Charlton of Australia by five frames to two in the Masters tournament, sponsored by Benson & Hedges at the Wembley Conference Centre yesterday.

In today's semi-final round Spencer will meet the world champion, Terry Griffiths, whom he has never defeated.

Spencer won the last five frames in a row yesterday but until the second half he was at his fluent best, hitting a total of 50 in the fifth frame, 38 in the sixth and 54 in the seventh, exercising his customary mastery of the ball to position himself for the next shot.

Although Spencer made no excuses for his uncertain start his preparation was probably affected by the fact that he arrived in London only yesterday about an hour before the match was due to start. His house in London was burgled on Tuesday night and the thieves got away with £2,000 in cash together with some jewellery.

After a promising start Charlton was never allowed to get into the match and the play was his in the second half. He made a break of 64 in the seventh frame but even though he led 4-1 he was not able to clear the table with a break of 41.

Griffiths cleared the table by potting reds, pink, black, blue and all the colours. A break of 64 gave Griffiths a firm grip on the seventh frame but even though he led 4-1 he was not able to clear the table with a break of 41.

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Yachting

Symonette leads the way in changing wind

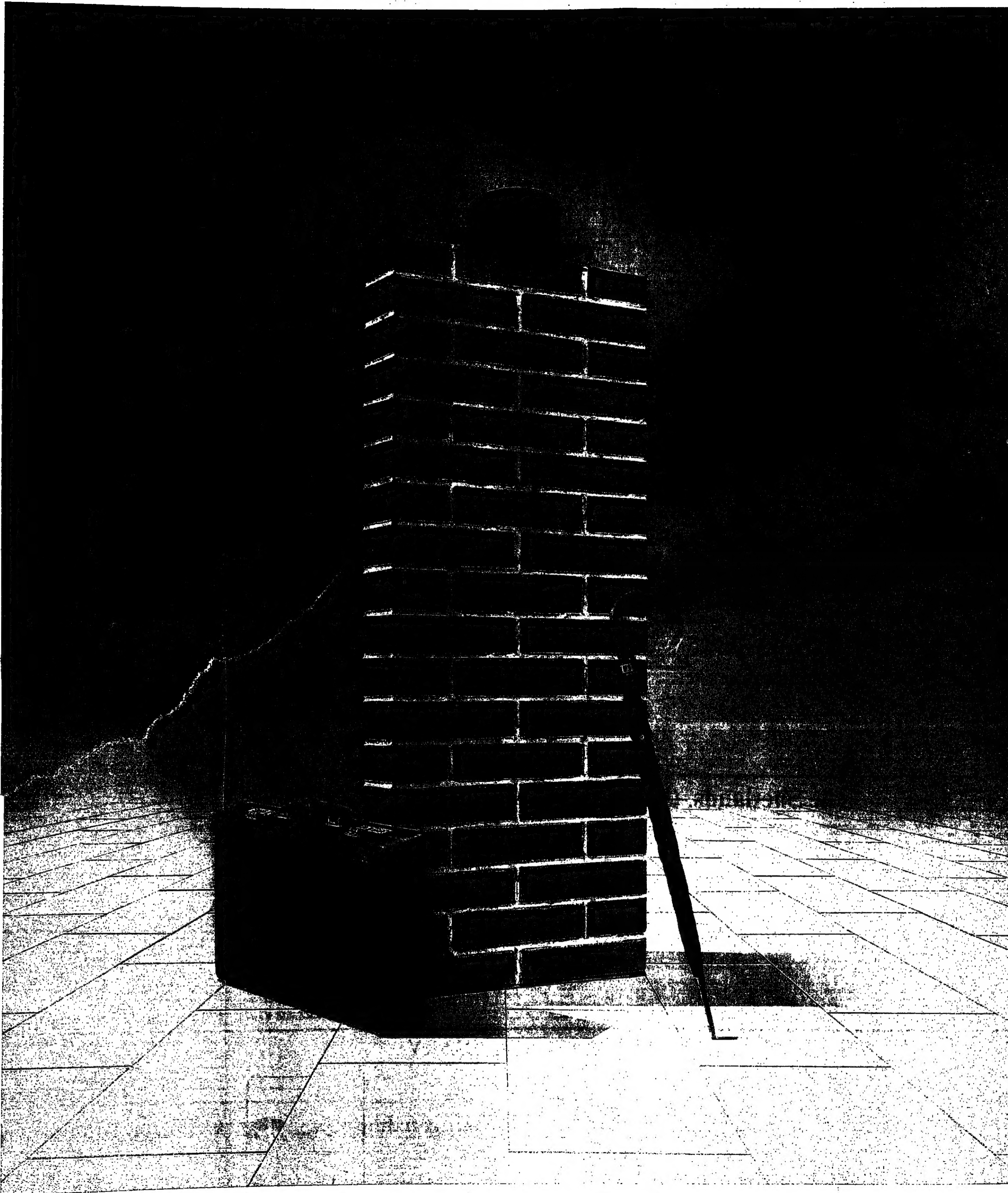
By Sydney Friskin

Sydney, Feb 7.—The Bahamas yacht John B. with Robert Symonette at the helm, won the second race in the World 5.5 metres Championship sailed off Pirbright today. Symonette led the way and finished three minutes 14 seconds ahead of the Australian holder, Frank Tolhurst, in Arunga II. Australians also took the next four places with the American yacht, Wildfire, skippered by Albert Fay, seventh.

Seven competitors floundered in the fluky breezes and Carl Halvorsen, who won the opening race in Skagaker, had to back to eleven. Nearly half-past conditions, followed by a general recall, delayed the start for 40 minutes. The race was not troubled most of the fleet but not John B., which held off a bold challenge from Arunga II, which halved its lead on the second from last leg with the wind.

SECOND RACE: 1. R. Symonette, John B. (Australia); 2. N. Halvorsen, Carl (Norway); 3. A. Fay, Wildfire (USA); 4. F. Tolhurst, Arunga II (Australia); 5. J. B. Symonette, John B. (Australia); 6. C. Halvorsen, Carl (Norway); 7. A. Fay, Wildfire (USA); 8. F. Tolhurst, Arunga II (Australia); 9. J. B. Symonette, John B. (Australia); 10. C. Halvorsen, Carl (Norway); 11. A. Fay, Wildfire (USA); 12. F. Tolhurst, Arunga II (Australia); 13. J. B. Symonette, John B. (Australia); 14. C. Halvorsen, Carl (Norway); 15. A. Fay, Wildfire (USA); 16. F. Tolhurst, Arunga II (Australia); 17. J. B. Symonette, John B. (Australia); 18. C. Halvorsen, Carl (Norway); 19. A. Fay, Wildfire (USA); 20. F. Tolhurst, Arunga II (Australia); 21. J. B. Symonette, John B. (Australia); 22. C. Halvorsen, Carl (Norway); 23. A. Fay, Wildfire (USA); 24. F. Tolhurst, Arunga II (Australia); 25. J. B. Symonette, John B. (Australia); 26. C. Halvorsen, Carl (Norway); 27. A. Fay, Wildfire (USA); 2

How many have you talked to lately?



If you're the boss of a small company, you probably know the picture only too well.

It's the sort of thing you come up against when you're trying to raise money:

"Come back in a year when it's off and running and we'll have another chat."

"Now, if it was £30 million you wanted..."

"We'd really like to be able to help you Mr...er... Mr..."

Fortunately, there's one place that really understands small companies and their problems.

That place is the Industrial and

Commercial Finance Corporation.

Over the last 34 years, we've helped many a good idea become a commercial reality.

Offers of anything from £5000 to more than £2 million have been known to be very useful.

So has our experience.

After all, you don't spend all your time in the company of small businessmen without learning what makes them tick.

Which is why you'll find us much less of a barrier.

ICFC

PARLIAMENT, February 7, 1980

Permanent solution is needed to problem of secondary strikes

House of Commons

Mr Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, categorically refused to question time to consider abandoning the Employment Bill for the time being in order to discuss with the TUC how to reach agreement on a satisfactory limitation of secondary action.

Mr James Callaghan, Leader of the Opposition (Cardiff, South-East, Lab), in the view of the fact that members of the Cabinet seem to be tumbling over themselves to tell the press where they stand on the Employment Bill and in the view of the obvious agreement in the Cabinet of reaching agreement on this matter, would she consider dropping this proposal for the moment in order to call in the TUC to discuss the law as drawn now widely. (Further Conservative cheers.)

Mr Thatcher—On the first point, about the law with regard to picketing, he will agree that we get some of the troubles we get today because the immunity and secondary action permitted under the law are drawn too widely. (Further Conservative cheers.) They are drawn too widely by the law. They need to be drawn more narrowly by the law. That will be the subject of the consultative document.

If there are major changes to be made to the Employment Bill arising out of that consultative document, we will follow previous precedent and discuss them on the floor of the House before they are committed to committee stage upstairs. That is the proper way to proceed.

Mr David Price (Eastleigh, C)—There have been far too many in the past year. It is not time to introduce the equivalent of a Geneva convention under which our collective bargaining process ending in a great industrial struggle is limited?

Mr Thatcher—I shall carry out the pledge in our manifesto that we shall ensure the protection of the law is available to those who, although not connected with a dispute, at present suffer severely from it.

A good deal will be carried out in the present Bill when it is law. The present position would be much better if the Employment Bill had been passed into law.

Ulster constitutional conference very much alive—Mr Atkins

There was an air of expectancy rather than hopelessness in Northern Ireland, Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House, said during questions about the constitutional conference which has been held in Belfast and is to meet again the week after next.

Mr Atkins (Spelthorne, C) said that the conference was engaged in a detailed consideration of how a devolved administrative would work in practice and of the role of the minority in it.

While there are major differences of view among participants (he said), the conference discussions have been serious and businesslike. I take this opportunity to express my hope that the conference will be a success in the outcome of the conference. As there is still much work to be done, I cannot set a final date for the conference.

As regards parallel talks, those are with Northern Ireland political leaders on matters outside the scope of the conference but relevant to the relationship between the Government and any newly elected body in Northern Ireland.

I met leading members of the SDLP on January 30. They set out their views on matters relating to security. There will be further meetings on this and other subjects.

Mr John Bignall-Davison (Epping Forest, C)—Since it is alleged by the SDLP that Unionist majority district councillors cannot be trusted to vote in favour of the bill, would he ascertain what structure of regional and local bodies could best prevent this?

Mr Atkins—There is a statutory machinery for considering matters of this kind. The Joint Committee on Complaints, the Equal Opportunities Commission, and so on. These are not the bodies to which the purpose of the conference would be what he suggests.

It is essential that government, but is it district council level in Northern Ireland, not only works but is seen to work properly and takes account of the interests of everyone. This is what the conference is about.

Mr William van Straubenzee (Votingham, C)—As it is suggested that the holding of the conference does not have the support of the people of Northern Ireland, can he estimate the degree of support there is for the conference for his efforts at reconciliation?

Mr Atkins—This is difficult to do. We all claim we do not rely on public opinion polls. The poll before the conference started did indicate that 84 per cent of the people in Northern Ireland thought the conference was a good idea.

Whether it is true, I do not know. A considerable majority of the people in Northern Ireland think it is right at this time for the political leaders of the Province to sit down with the Government to see if we can find a way in which power can be transferred to elected representatives in Northern Ireland. That is what we are doing.

Mr Martin Plannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab)—The sense of hopelessness and hopelessness pervades the vast majority of the people in the Republic and the United Kingdom, most of whom are not watching this conference.

Mr Atkins—He is wrong to refer to a sense of hopelessness. I detect exactly the opposite. There is a sense among ordinary people that there is an opportunity. Here is a British Government genuinely seeking ways of returning democracy to the province and asking the critical leaders to meet it, to come together to see how best this can be done.

Two days on Education Bill

The main business in the Commons next week will be:

Monday: Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading.

Friday: Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading; Education Bill, second reading.

'Clarifying' the law on nursery education

In response to Opposition demands, Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House, promised to consider whether to allow extra time to be spent on a new provision which has been tabled to the Education Bill concerning the obligation on local education authorities to provide nursery education.

After the business for next week had been announced, Mr John-Stevas, Leader of the Opposition (Cardiff, South-East, Lab) said: I am aware of the proposal brought forward in connection with the Education Bill to remove the obligation to provide nursery education for the first time since it appeared in the 1944 Act.

It is an unwelcome way to treat the House to bring forward at this late stage, when the timetable has been agreed and the business allocated, an important issue which is not a matter of great importance.

We have been pressing for a statement on this for three months. It has come at the last moment. Instead of trying to sneak it through in this way, would he consider giving extra time for consideration of it, and if necessary recall the business committee?

Mr St John-Stevas—This is not a great change in practice. (Labour protests.) When I was at the Department of Education and Science there was a strong body of opinion within that department that there was not an obligation. This is a clarifying amendment rather than a basic change in principle.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L)—However much he may want to help his Tory friends in the House, he must give the House an opportunity to debate such a major issue at some length. If he does not it will be debated at a time when it will be too late to introduce a timetable to discuss it.

Mr St John-Stevas—He is exaggerating the point. There is no question of abolishing nursery education. This is a clarifying amendment.

Mr Callaghan—The Education Bill, in our view and that of most people, is removing the obligation that has existed since 1944 on local education authorities to provide nursery education.

There is a difference of view about this. Time should be given to the House to discuss this important principle. Otherwise there will be trouble on this. He cannot sneak it through in this way and expect to get cooperation on other matters.

Mr St John-Stevas—He is exaggerating this issue. (Labour protests.)—because although that provision may have been in the Education Act, there is no example of any effort being made to enforce it. It is a principle against an education authority.

Mr Neil Kinnock, chief Opposition spokesman on education (Bristol, Lab)—He is leader of the whole House. If this shift in the new clause is so marginal from the 1944 position, why was it necessary to get the advice of the Attorney General on this matter about a month ago?

This matter is being introduced at a very late stage because there is a need to grant immunity to the county of Oxfordshire which was being sued for the closing of a school for the first time since 1944.

Mr St John-Stevas—It has nothing to do with the situation in Oxfordshire. The fact that the Attorney General was called in to advise support the point I am making. There were two points of view on this. There is no example of this having been enforced on a local education authority.

After a further intervention from Mr Callaghan requesting that the issue be discussed, Mr St John-Stevas said that, without giving an undertaking, he would consider the matter.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, Scot Nat) said—Mrs Thatcher should look at press reports earlier this week that Britain is now the most open to foreign industrial investment in the United States economy.

When is she going to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir Geoffrey Howe) to alter his economic policies to improve investment in Britain and bring more jobs into areas like mine?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C)—It is probably advisable for Britain to have a good deal of overseas investment. We need the money to improve our infrastructure. We need the money to improve our infrastructure. We need the money to improve our infrastructure.

Mr Peter Tapsell (Horncastle, C)—It is time to bring domestic credit expansion under more effective control by issuing certificates to the banks and other main lending institutions to reduce their lending to within the declared Government monetary limits.

Mrs Thatcher—We would be prepared to consider it. As we know, there has been an enormous explosion in financial technology with the various ways of getting around controls.

That means any such directive on the banks would largely cause lending to be transferred to other lending institutions.

Mr Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C)—With the credit expansion under more effective control, surely the time has come for the Bank of England to issue an instruction?

Mrs Thatcher—It is not only an instruction; it needs to be something more than a little bit more effective than that.

The Chancellor made a statement that there will be a consultation on the banks coming out soon about the possibility of going to a different method of controlling money supply on a monetary base which would be fiercer than anything we have at present.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberals (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles), asked if she had considered the possibility of the Council of Agricultural Ministers, this morning about the sale of butter to the Russians at 23p a pound.

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Tighter security on Ulster public transport in wake of recent bomb outrages

The catalogue of recent outrages in Northern Ireland demonstrated that the terrorists had nothing to fear from the security forces, except destruction and division, Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said today.

What measures does he intend to take following his review of security of public transport?

Mr Atkins—We have reviewed the security of public transport and we have taken a number of steps. I do not think it would be in the public interest to detail these steps, but we have intensified the security precautions on public transport which I hope will prevent further outrages in trains as happened the other day.

We are continually reviewing the role and the operation of the security forces and we have to take account of the fact that the terrorists who know no law. But we have to abide by the law and our forces in the best way we can.

Mr David Trippier (Rosedale, C)—As a result of discussions he has had with ministers of the IRA, he has concluded that the IRA have continued their senseless campaign of violence.

Considerable damage was caused to buildings in Armagh, Aughnacloy and Killybeggs on Sunday 15 and 16 February. Twenty buses were destroyed or damaged by terrorist devices in the Falls Road bus depot on February 17.

On January 17 a bomb exploded on a train killing not only the IRA terrorist carrying it but also two other people. In all 17 people have died as a result of terrorist actions since December 20, nine civilians, seven members of the security forces and one member of the prison service.

As I stressed on December 20, this catalogue of outrages demonstrates that the IRA will continue their senseless operations to count down to the day.

Mr Atkins—The security forces are the front line of defence for the ordinary people. It is in the interests of every peace-loving citizen to support them.

Mr Tam Dalyell (West Lothian, Lab)—In his more reflective moments does he think it altogether wise, in countering the IRA, to use the force of the law? Or would it be better to use the force of the law?

Mr Atkins—The greatest aid Governor Carey, Speaker O'Neill and other Americans can give, and which we are grateful for, is to ensure that the American people understand what is happening in Northern Ireland.

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Search for control over credit cards

House of Commons

The Government would consider issuing a directive to the banks to curb domestic credit expansion, but there was a risk of lending being transferred to other institutions, the Prime Minister warned at question time.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, Scot Nat) said—Mrs Thatcher should look at press reports earlier this week that Britain is now the most open to foreign industrial investment in the United States economy.

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THEATRES

WINDMILL THEATRE, 601-2511, 651-13
6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00
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6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2 SHAPESBURY AVE, 633
8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00
ABC 1 & 2 SHAPESBURY AVE, 633
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ABC 1 & 2 SHAPESBURY AVE, 633
8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bailey, E.C.4
WATERLOO EXHIBITION, 100
WATERLOO EXHIBITION, 100
WATERLOO EXHIBITION, 100

CONCERTS

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 3.00
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
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Why Europe and the Americans see Afghanistan differently

Détente: the two views in the West

Détente is indivisible: for years that has been the ritual refrain on both sides of the Atlantic. Yet beneath the surface it has been clearer and clearer that détente, from a western perspective, is in fact divisible.

Reactions to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan have underscored the point. Immediate assessments of international events are likely to overstate their broader significance. Yet it is hard to escape the impression that Afghanistan marks a watershed in relations between the United States and its allies in western Europe.

Much of the transatlantic strain will seem distressingly familiar, and some of it will be. Yet Afghanistan forces to a head hard questions about the interests of America and Europe in relations with the Soviet Union, and of European and American roles in defending western interests outside Europe.

The risk of serious acrimony across the Atlantic is high. And beneath that possibility lie urgent questions that can no longer be deferred.

The fact is that détente has a meaning for Europeans that it does not for Americans. The web of economic dealings and personal contacts that link Europe's western and eastern halves creates concrete stakes for Europeans that do not exist for Americans.

This is true for West Germans, but it is also true for other Europeans; it is partly obscured in the case of Britain for reasons of history and because the Thatcher Government lies at the right edge of the European consensus.

Europeans are thus bound to see world events, Afghanistan included, through the prism of European détente. By those lights, Afghanistan may look far away. For western European nations to respond like the United States, by curtailing trade and other links with the East, may threaten to upset prevailing patterns, hence seem too risky to contemplate.

By contrast, the United States, by contrast, will be driven by their global role and remain keenly aware of the slender fruits of détente between the two superpowers. They will be tempted, as in

The Soviet Union should be compelled to pay some political price for western technology

Afghanistan, to react to Moscow's Third World adventures by cutting what remains of that détente, especially when local circumstances seem to preclude a direct response on the ground.

There is now a broad feeling in the United States that, whatever the defects of previous Carter Administration policies and whatever the shortcomings of patterns of consultation with European allies—and there are many of both—the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is the last straw.

The train is leaving the station, and Europeans should be on it, never mind if it is not yet precisely clear where the train is going. There is much of the ring of the familiar about such American pleadings. They assume that United States policy is correct and Europeans should merely line-up behind it. The first may not be true and the second is as irritating as ever.

more important to Europeans than to Americans. Americans are prone to ask if there is any Soviet threat outside Europe that would induce Europeans to put their détente at risk.

The answer may well be no. It may be time for us to stop repeating that détente is indivisible as though we thought it were true, and to come to grips with the implications.

There are obvious grounds to question how wise it has been, or will be, for Europeans to expand economic relations with the East without taking Soviet political behaviour outside Europe into account.

This is not a plea for formal linkage, nor is it to deny the mutual benefits of East-West trade. But the Soviet Union should be compelled to pay some political price for western technology. That requires more coordination among western governments, and probably a larger present role in East-West economics as well.

Some of the military implications are more immediate still. Increases in American defence spending will not produce more

ships in the Indian Ocean soon, or more contingency forces for use in the Third World. As more such forces are required, sooner or later it will bite into American forces earmarked for Europe. That will force hard choices on Europe.

Britain and France, in particular, have military assets to contribute. But if the United States is to continue to bear the lion's share of a growing military burden outside Europe, Europeans will face the need to do more themselves in Europe.

Beyond that, there is the issue of whether the post-war pattern—America providing the military protection for western interests outside Europe—any longer accords with military logic or political sense. The question is not new, and the answers then no easier now than before. But the issue can no longer be relegated to academic debate.

Gregory F. Trevorton

The author is assistant director, International Institute for Strategic Studies



Jogging: today's style and how the Greeks did it (below left).

Coronaries: getting to the heart of the matter

The good progress being made by the four patients recently given heart transplants must be worrying for the mandarins at the head of the Health Service.

More operations for heart disease are being done each year—including coronary bypass grafting, now the leading form of heart surgery in the United States. It is less dramatic than transplantation but equally life saving, and demand seems likely to grow exponentially in the next few years.

Inevitably, this latest success from high-technology surgery will renew pressures for more investment in the hospital services. It will also rekindle the controversy about the balance between the preventive and technological approaches to the control of heart disease. Only in exceptional circumstances (and in some rare forms of heart disease) will heart transplantation be the first choice and for the foreseeable future it will be offered only to patients so ill that their life expectancy is no more than a few months.

The patients will more often be men than women—deaths from heart disease are twice as common in men as women at the age of 45. Medical science has not yet explained this difference which is much less marked than in the elderly.

Each year, 250,000 persons die of heart disorders in Britain almost all of these deaths are due to coronary artery disease, and many are in young otherwise healthy men and women. However, the incidence of coronary disease is that it is very quickly; there may be a premonitory symptom, and early one third of the men and women who die from coronary attacks do so within the hour or so between becoming ill and reaching the hospital.

Most of those who recover return to normal fitness, but sudden death remains a risk that accounts for another 30 per cent of the deaths. Only a minority of patients survive without severe heart damage of the kind that benefits from surgery—or that minority amounts to tens of thousands of potential customers for the surgeons.

Life wonder, then, that prevalence has been so publicised as the solution to the worldwide epidemic of heart disease. No one who reads newspapers or magazines can be in any doubt about the features of the coronary lifestyle. The potential survivor does not smoke, has a regular exercise, watches what he eats (little animal or dairy fat, cholesterol, and salt), and has his blood pressure checked regularly. He should also try to achieve a relaxed, non-aggressive, non-competitive approach to life, avoiding con-

cern about deadlines and time tables and finding time to do nothing and enjoy it.

In the United States, where people are brought up to be health-conscious, preventive medicine has had a greater impact than in Britain. Smoking has declined in popularity; more people are eating polyunsaturated fats, and jogging has become a national pastime. As a result, the last decade has seen a significant decline in mortality from heart disease—though the experts have been unable to agree which of the changes in the American way of life should take the credit.

Here in Britain the best that can be said is that deaths from heart disease have stopped rising. Anticorony propaganda has had less exposure (possibly because it has been seen as a governmental responsibility and successive administrations have given it low priority). There may be some grounds for optimism in the professional classes (who are often in the vanguard of social change) but politicians of both parties have proved unwilling to use taxation to encourage the population to follow the American example.

Yet however important prevention may be, the reality is that each year over half a million people in Britain have heart attacks—and the medical technologists have a lot more to offer than their opponents suggest. One of the most widely repeated criticisms of specialist medicine is that admission of these patients to hospital coronary care units confers no advantage. True, research studies have shown that if a patient, who has had a coronary attack, is comfortable in his own bed nothing is gained by transferring him to hospital; but for the man who collapses in the street or at his office immediate admission to hospital may be life-saving.

The best results are obtained in cities with an organized squad of ambulances with staff trained to treat cardiac emergencies—and with a local population alerted to summon help quickly.

For since the crucial interval for someone who has had a heart attack is the first hour or so the lesson to be learnt is that medical help must be called early rather than late. Any one taken suddenly ill with crushing central chest pain or pain extending from the chest to the arms or the neck should be assumed to be having a heart attack; and if a doctor is not immediately available then the decision is plain: call an ambulance. Technological skills can help only those who reach the hospital alive.

Dr Tony Smith
Medical Correspondent

The Greeks had a way of playing the Games

The Greek Prime Minister has renewed his enchanting proposal that the Olympic Games should be returned to their original home. In his letter to Lord Killanin, Mr Constantine Karamanlis invited the conventional pieties about the Games: "pure Olympic ceremonial... the austere and sober athletic spirit... the appealing concept of the game for the game's sake." Forty British MPs have just signed a motion supporting his proposal.

What god, what hero, what man should I loudly praise? Zeus, the President of the International Olympic Committee, Hercules, who founded the Games, and Pegasus, who won 27 baskets in the basketball final? Of course the ancient Olympics are the oldest and most sporting athletics meeting in the world. But some of the stuff at present written about them, even on the subject of romance rather than realism. Human frailty was not absent from Olympia.

Chauvinism intruded even in that golden age. For example, one year Elis and Athens combined to exclude the Spartans, supposedly on religious grounds, in much the same way that modern nations combine to exclude others or boycott the modern Games.

It is true that the ancient Olympics, like the modern, were nominally for amateurs. The winners received only the glory, and chaplets of wild olive. All competitors were required to weed the track and clear the stadium before the races. The facilities provided for the athletes were minimal, washing facilities inadequate, and lavatories behind the nearest bush.

However, an Olympic winner was made for life, in much the same way that a modern Russian or American super-star need trouble himself or herself about nothing except sport. An athlete who had won at Olympia could expect high rewards and claim a large pension from his native city, as well as an Ode from Pindar if he was lucky.

There were other lucrative perks. During Roman imperial rule, city Bishops for instance, were offered an Olympic winner 30,000 drachmas to enter its local sports. At that time a Roman soldier was paid between 250 and 300 drachmas a year.

The host nation did well out of the Games also. The oligarchy of rich gentlemen-farmers of Elis, who ran the show, had power to fine offenders. Anybody who broke the sacred truce was fined at the rate of two minae per hoplite. In 480 the great Theogenes, having won the boxing, scratched from the final of the pankration (kicking and hitting were illegal; biting and gouging were with rods ready to flag any athlete who broke the rules). He was summoned before the stewards, and ordered to pay a fine of one talent to Olympian Zeus—a diplomatic euphemism for themselves.

He was also ordered to pay one talent to the other finalists, Euthymus, "because it seemed to them that it was only to spite him that Theogenes had entered for the boxing." The authorities (he had to, if he wanted ever to compete at Olympia again), but came to a disreputable private arrangement with Euthymus that his part of the fine should be remitted on condition that Theogenes did not enter for the boxing at the next Olympics.

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Olympic committee, on occasions had to invite commercial sponsorship. For example, King Herod of Judea, distinctly a non-Greek, was made president of the Games to 12 ac to help them through a particularly sticky financial patch. King Philip II of Macedonia built impressive monuments. The admiral Herodotus Atticus, a wealthy Roman born in Athens, built an elaborate water supply and sanitation system, at last, in the second century ac.

Conditions for athletes and spectators at Olympia were not Elysian but hellish. Epictetus the philosopher drew a stoic moral from them: "True, there

are hardships and difficulties in life. Are they not to be found even at Olympia? Don't you get baked by the sun there? Don't you get crushed by the crowds? Don't you find it impossible to get a bath? Don't you get soaked whenever it rains? Don't you have an overdose of noise, of shouting, and of exasperation? Yet you steel your heart and put up with it all, because you think that the spectacle makes it worth while."

It is regrettable to have to repeat it, but there was a good deal of cheating in the ancient Olympics. Lucian notes that pankratiasts were well called "Lions", because of the

Running in the Games: Orsippus dropped his shorts and gained a little speed to win the sprint...

amount of biting they did. Sostratus of Sicily, three times victor at Olympia, was famous for his finger-breaking trick. The word for fouling (which pankratiasts were not supposed to do) was the ordinary Greek word for "to dig", made into a compound so that it means to gouge alongside the other cheek. No Greek pankratiast ever gouged; they all continually, gouged in retaliation.

In spite of romantic modern rhetoric, the ancient Olympics were not the apotheosis of sporting amateurism as practised by English gentlemen (and one could raise a question mark about them too). Greeks were Greeks, just as English gentlemen will be English gentlemen.

Nevertheless, they did have some good ideas. Any woman caught at the Games, or even let us suppose with the River Alpheus, was removed by being thrown down the cliffs of Mount Taygetus. The ancient Games consisted only of foot-races, the pentathlon (which included the discus and javelin throwing), the 300-metre sprint, the standing long jump, and wrestling. During the seventh century BC boxing, chariot-races, horse-races, and the pankration were introduced. So there were no ridiculous team sports, no sports that depended on the opinions of judges. From 720 BC onwards athletes competed naked, after Orsippus dropped his shorts and gained a little speed to win the sprint.

By all means let us return the Olympics to Greece, but let us suppose with the starry-eyed Baron Pierre de Coubertin that they exemplified nothing but "the noble and chivalrous character of athletics."

Philip Howard

The Shetlands, thirsty for independence

The 500 members of the Shetland Movement will tomorrow decide whether to endorse a first step towards autonomy for Shetland in most areas of domestic government. Such a move would sharply increase the pressure to have even stronger local control over government decisions directly affecting the islands, through the impact of oil industry and the critical decline in long-established industries, particularly fishing.

The significant strength of the movement, which 16 months old, is that almost half the Shetlands Islands Council are members and that they believe Shetland has never been in a stronger or more impressive bargaining position. The proposals, to be put before tomorrow's meeting, include a skeleton constitution, giving a separate parliament, known by the old Nordic title of the Althing, and power for the islanders to run their own revenue raising and administration system.

The movement's executive insists that what they are seeking is a long way from Shetland's independence from the United Kingdom and little different from the status now enjoyed by the Isle of Man. The members have been told that Shetland's strong position, helped by the considerable autonomy given under the Zetland County Council Act 1974, immediately before the oil boom, means that estimated revenue to the islands, largely from the oil industry, would overtake expenditure by more than £1m in two years' time.

If the members accept the proposals, they will effectively transform the Shetland movement from a pressure group into a political party, which would seek to win a positive majority on the Shetlands Islands Council. An aim which it has almost achieved already.

The proposals are that Shetland should be administered by eight boards, elected by the islanders, covering finance, administration, industry and development, roads, education and leisure, ports and harbours, police, fire and civil defence. Board chairmen and the Speaker of the Althing would form an executive council, with power to examine, approve or suggest amendments to United Kingdom legislation, before submission to the Althing. This ability to mould United Kingdom legislation to Shetland's particular needs, would be supplemented by the power to promulgate special legislation where necessary.

The Althing would handle income tax, road fund licences and rates in the islands, as well as receiving pro rata contributions from central government, from VAT, car tax and

customs duties. In return, the Althing would accept responsibility for administering and financing services which central government had provided. The Althing would remit money each year to the central exchequer, to cover defence, financing the national debt and supporting nationalized industries.

There would be a safeguard provision for talks about aid, between the United Kingdom Government and the Althing, if Shetland ran into debt. That is thought unlikely by the Shetland Movement. They calculate the islands will have a favourable balance of payments for at least 40 years, giving time to develop a strong local economy, which will take over when the oil revenues end. They have not taken account in their calculations of income, of the oil reserve fund, which will run

into millions of pounds.

The figures they will put forward to support their proposals have been questioned by some quarters in Shetland, show an estimated expenditure by 1982 of almost £39m. Total income would reach almost £40m for the islands, which have a population of about 22,000. That includes £20m rise in income from the Sullom Voe oil terminal.

Mr James Irvine, chairman of the Shetland Movement, believed the demands for autonomy were perfectly justified. Many Shetlanders were convinced that if the local authority had not held control over development, won through the ZCC Act, Shetland would be in a very unhappy position now. The islanders fear steep increases in their rates, from playing host to one of the largest oil terminals in the world.

that these powers have been essential and should be extended.

It is uncertain how many SIC members will withdraw their support if the Shetland Movement executive receives approval and there are no illusions that it will not be difficult to ensure Westminster further to relax its authority over an area essential to the United Kingdom economy.

"It is precisely because Shetland is so important and under such pressure, we want to make sure there is something left of an economy, when the oil boom is over," Mr John Graham, headmaster of a local school, said.

Already there were daunting indications that unemployment will rise sharply, as the construction phase at Sullom Voe ends and the islanders fear steep increases in their rates, from playing host to one of the largest oil terminals in the world.

Ronald Faux

LAPLAND DIARY

Worrying about big brother over the border

Ivalo, Finland
It is getting warmer here, 200 miles north of the Arctic Circle where the temperature has gone up from minus 48 degrees C to only minus 25 degrees. At Rajajoesepi, the tiny frontier station on the eastern border between Finnish Lapland and the Soviet Union, it has been around minus 38 degrees for the past few nights. This is not only the coldest, but one of the most sensitive frontier areas along Finland's Soviet border where the political temperature has also been rising following events in Afghanistan and Yugoslavia.

It is the only place where it is possible to get unimpeded to within 200 metres of the actual crossing as there is no frontier zone as such. The ice-covered road from here to Rajajoesepi (in English, Joseph's Hut) 54 kms away winds and twists through low, pine-covered hills. At the frontier station, a small collection of unassuming huts with a solitary blue-and-white Finnish flag fluttering in the knife-sharp breeze, the road leads straight on to the important Soviet naval base of Murmansk (population 375,000) only two-and-a-half hours' drive away. About 50 kms north of Rajajoesepi is the only other border crossing in Rajajoesepi, one but this is seldom used, if at all. If any Russian land troops wanted to come through from the east they would have to take one of these roads; the newer one from Murmansk would be the most likely. The three guards I spoke to at Joseph's Hut said the only people who passed through were the odd tourist, usually foreign. They could not remember when the last person went through as it was so long ago. However, no doubt in preparation for the Olympic Games (if and when) they must be anticipating an increase in traffic as a new permanent brick-built customs house is under construction to replace the existing "Portakabin" type but. Out in the snow were three motorized ski-scooters which are not only used by the soldiers but by all those who want to move off the roads including Lapps rounding up their reindeer.

The area is particularly sensitive at the moment as many Finns who have lived a peaceful, and now extremely prosperous coexistence with their "big brother", are worried about the international situation which they feel is at its worst since the Korean war which ironically later led to an unprecedented economic boom for the country. The 7,000 inhabitants of this huge tract of Arctic Finland,

about one-third of the whole country in area, know that they are a strategic "hot" zone between Nato forces on their western and northern frontiers and the Soviet Union on the east. A former member of the frontier guard said that the people of Ivalo, population about 2,700, believed that if, a very big "if", of course, the Russians did come they would attempt to drive straight through to the west and thus effectively chop off the top half of the country. They also knew that Nato forces would not attempt to hold them back until Soviet forces reached longitude 24 degrees, just west of the Norwegian town of Lakselv.

The ex-officer, remembering 1940 when the Finns held back the Russians, said that if it really came to the point a fierce guerrilla war would break out. "Although there are only a few in holding out for months", he added, "particularly in winter." It so happens that the Finnish army have now upgraded the local area garrison at Sodankylä to brigade headquarters. This month thousands of Finnish troops will be taking part in border exercises, not only in Lapland but throughout the country as the present entry of conscripts complete their training. This will no doubt lead to another round of speculation in the Norwegian and Swedish

press which have already caused considerable aggravation here by suggesting that Russian troops, some 20,000 strong, were massing on the Finnish frontier. Suspensions were increased when Finnish fighters flew low level patrols up and down the Lap border. But these kind of reports were categorically denied by Moscow. Finnish sources in Helsinki say that border exercises, particularly in the southern Karelian isthmus take place regularly.

When it is almost too cold to breathe

Certainly, at Joseph's Hut, there was nothing happening, nothing at all except the cold, cold snow falling. The only movement was by a pair of whiteclad Finnish soldiers with rifles and walkie-talkies on their backs setting off through the border woods. One said that the greatest danger was in fact from the brown bear of which about 400 have been reported in the area, the highest number ever known.

It is amazing that life goes on in these conditions but it does. At around minus 25 degrees the inside of your nose freezes when you breathe in; at much lower temperatures it is positively dangerous to breathe in fact as the inside of your lungs is likely to get

frostbite unless you inhale through a protective cloth.

Surprisingly enough there are few problems with driving on the ice and snow. Cars have to be fitted with studded snow tyres by law and you must remember to plug the electric pump heater into the nearest point when you stop the car, especially for an hour or so, as otherwise the oil freezes. Back axles will often freeze solid and can only be freed by dragging the car with a tractor or lorry. You must not leave the handbrake on (as I did once) or the brake shoes freeze to the drums if the inside of the car is warm and moist when you step out your boots immediately freeze to the ground unless you move quickly.

You would think all this is enough to put people off all outside work. But no. At the small, expanding skiing resort of Saariselkä, where the new Rikinkieppö hotel is just opening for the "season", two workmen muffled up in the eyes were actively welding power chain saws as they put the finishing touches to a luxury timber holiday house, no doubt owned by one of the banks or business houses from Helsinki down in the far south where they have been investing in minus 20 degrees.

It is not only cold in Ivalo but dark as well. Although the worst of the winter is over and

the "kaamos" (no sun) has ceased the sun at present barely rises above the trees at midday and vanishes around 3 pm. But soon the days will lengthen and the Finnish "spring winter" (March to May) will begin, and bring out the tourists for cross-country skiing, something that the venerable statesman and President, Urho Kekkonen, still does at the age of 79.

Personally I'm in favour of the two houses family...



The last of the reindeer round-up should now be over and the 200 or so Lapps, or more accurately Sami, who live in this area will get down to the business of making money from selling their meat, guiding the tourists or joining in the gold rush which will take place this year when the snow melts.

At the hamlet of Tankavaara, no far from here, there is a gold mine, and today, as you would expect, things are booming. It is run on behalf of the 20-member association of gold prospectors by Inkeri Syrjänen and Kauka Launonen.

Goldrush after the thaw

Miss Syrjänen, who has lived for five years in the pari area, has built up and developed the gold mine as a working industrial archaeological project. Apart from being a most attractive gold digger, she is immensely interested in preserving all the relics from the old gold prospecting days from the area generally. There is now a proper museum and deep under the snow outside is the now hard frozen river with its gold.

"Oh, yes, we are expecting real gold fever this summer", she said beguilingly as she

let me handle the half kilo or so of gold that she and Kauka had found or bought from the old miners. Gold was first found here in 1936 and is one of several traditional gold mining districts in Lapland. The largest nugget found was 183gms in 1950. One of the old miners, Heikki Kokko, now about 65, who lives in Ivalo, found two kilos of gold one day and immediately bought his wife from another gold miner, Aaro Raunomaa, for one kilo. They are still living, happy and apparently prosperous as well.

If you feel like tracking to the arctic wastes you can still stake a claim via the local land registry office for 200 marks a hectare (about £25) a year provided you are Finnish and work it each year. But for very much less anyone can pay a small fee and hire a washing-pan and a pair of boots and sit on a log in the river washing away the sand and gravel until only the gleaming specks of gold are left behind in the pan. And if that fails you can always buy a gramme or two (or more if you can afford the market price) from Miss Syrjänen as I did. Well, it was nearly mid-winter and minus 31 degrees and I left minus only a few pounds, but I had a pocketful of gold, or almost.

Michael Frenchman



THE ARC OF ISLAM

Soviet troops should withdraw from Afghanistan. That is the absolute condition of progress in international affairs. But few of us have any clear ideas about how to get them out, and as far as we have very reasonably concentrated on making our displeasure felt in various ways, less in the hope of actually getting them out than of making the Soviet leaders think twice before doing the same in another country.

That is right and necessary but it is not enough. We should not resign ourselves to seeing Afghanistan permanently absorbed into the Soviet empire. That would be bad for the Afghans but also bad for us. It leaves us with the choice either of gradually relaxing our guard and resuming more or less friendly relations with the Soviet Union—in which case we shall simply have demonstrated our weakness and all our gestures of condemnation will have been worse than useless—or of maintaining an atmosphere of hostility and tension, accelerating the arms race, staking out areas of influence throughout the world, and snubbing any Soviet gestures of friendship. We must be prepared to maintain this latter attitude if the occupation of Afghanistan goes on, but it is no good pretending to enjoy it. It will be unpleasant, expensive and dangerous, both for the world in general and for the vicinity of Afghanistan in particular.

In effect we are being forced back to the policies of Mr Dulles, trying to build a highly fortified line of defence across Asia against Soviet expansion, a line which would now have to stretch from Shanghai to the Bosphorus.

The Baghdad Pact, and its child CENTO, are rising again from their graves. The governments of Pakistan and of several Arab countries are willing, even anxious, to have substantial military aid and some kind of guarantee, amounting virtually to an alliance, from the West. The memory of the Shah's tyranny, and of the damage done to Iran's self-respect by the manner of western support for it, are still too fresh. Yet there has already been a marked shift in Iranian perspective since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The more that tension in the region rises, the more likely it is that sooner or later Iran will feel obliged to accept a degree of renewed western aid as the lesser of two evils.

That policy would certainly not win unanimous support in Iran. It might well add to the unpopularity of a revolutionary regime whose glamour is already tarnished by economic difficulties and religious intolerance. Equally it is unlikely that massive supplies of western arms will add to the already low popularity of General Zia's regime in Pakistan, while almost certainly friction between the West and India will increase.

This division of the region into armed camps closely tied to rival superpowers goes against the trend which has been so clearly affirmed throughout it in the last few years—the trend towards independence based on a reassertion of Islamic identity. The West fell foul of that trend in Iran. The Soviet Union has now, most unwisely, attacked it in Afghanistan. The main difference

is that the West, while supporting the Shah, was not prepared to go to the length of sending troops to try and maintain him in power against the manifest will of the Iranian people, whereas the Soviet Union has sent in troops to try and prevent a pro-communist government from being swept away by the manifest will of the Afghan people. They may be able to hold on, but it is costing them a lot, and will cost them even more.

These three non-Arab Muslim countries—Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran—wedged between the Soviet Union and the Indian Ocean, must be allowed to choose for themselves. They must be free to go the way that the great majority of their people evidently want to go: to work out their own forms of government, based on Islamic principles, in non-alignment and in peace. Both Soviet and western interests could best be met by agreeing to recognize and guarantee the neutrality of all three countries, not seeking to interfere with their freedom, their independence, their right to non-alignment or their religion. The 'arc of crisis' should be made an arc of independent Islam. For the Soviet Union the example of Austria is surely more favourable than that of the Afghan occupation. If there is even a shred of sincerity in Mr Brezhnev's protestations of anxiety to preserve détente, he should find this proposition well worth discussing; the West, which needs a policy beyond its immediate reaction, should find it in supporting self-determination and the opportunity for non-alignment of these three major Islamic nations.

THINGS THAT LOOK PRETTY ODD

"An Act of Parliament can do no wrong," said Chief Justice Holt in 1701, "though it may do several things that look pretty odd." That maxim, cited by Lord Edmund-Davies, sums up the attitude of the five law lords who yesterday provided their reasons for overturning the decision by the Court of Appeal prohibiting the union from extending the steel strike to the private sector. Their Lordships were at pains to explain that they were reluctant to come to their conclusion but that the terms of the statute obliged them to do so. They were mere interpreters of the law; if the law was oppressive, it was for Parliament, and not judges to change it. Their Lordships found themselves unable to distinguish between the steel case and *MacShane v. Express Newspapers*, in which they had decided that secondary picketing on the part of journalists, on the basis of an instruction of their union, fell within the immunity granted under section 2 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 because it was an act "in furtherance of a trade dispute". The action by Mr Sirs and his union in calling on workers in the private sector to strike was equally an act in furtherance of a trade dispute, and therefore immune from normal legal action.

Where Parliament grants exceptionally wide powers or immunities to a particular group or authority—whether it be the police, government departments, tax inspectors, or trade unions—the statutory provisions which give rise to those powers must be interpreted restrictively. The greater the power, the stricter the interpretation. That is not only common sense; it is a necessary requirement for the maintenance of the rule of law in a democratic society. For if those authorities or groups are given

wide powers, and in addition are allowed to exercise them without proper legal control, the liberties of the individual are surely in danger. That the trade unions have been given immunities of immense scope is not in doubt. Unhappily, the House of Lords, far from treating the statutory provisions conferring those immunities to the most restrictive interpretation possible, have laid down criteria which, in practice, make it virtually impossible to challenge them.

The House of Lords said in *MacShane* and they were not obliged to do so: the test for people undertaking secondary industrial action was whether they honestly believed that their action was capable of furthering the trade dispute in question. If they did so believe, their action was covered by the immunity. It was a subjective test, though slightly qualified by the necessity for the belief to be honestly held. A concept which might itself be liable to objective analysis bringing in the element of reasonableness. Only Lord Wilberforce favoured a purely objective test. We would follow Lord Wilberforce and the *MacShane* case both on the need for an objective test, and on it having been met. It was a pity that Lord Wilberforce was unavoidably absent in the steel case.

Lord Scarman's judgment in the steel case set out with clarity the dilemma which judges have to face: "Interpretation does, of course, imply in the interpreter a power of choice between differing constructions, as possible. But our law requires the judge to choose the construction which in his judgment best meets the legislative purpose of the enactment... Only if a just result can be achieved without violating the legislative purpose of the statute may the judge select the

construction which best suits his idea of what justice requires."

Unfortunately he went on to say, in effect, that justice required the application of a subjective test. That is not valid. The law lords, both in *MacShane* and in the steel case, could have plumped for the objective approach, and won. Indeed have been following precedents on interpretation. That they did not do so demonstrates their basic illiberality and disregard for individual freedom. As it happens, in both cases, the result would probably have been the same; the actions taken by the unions in the two cases could both have been considered "in furtherance of a trade dispute" under the objectives test.

Lord Diplock, who delivered the principal speech, was quite certain what the relevant section of the statute meant, but when it came to dealing with the letter written by Mr Sirs which had led Lord Denning to say that the dispute had become political and had ceased to be about "trade", he showed a laxity of interpretation which hardly inspires confidence. The definition of "trade dispute", too, requires a strict interpretation, which was not given it by their Lordships, though, again, had they adopted the correct approach, the conclusion would probably have been the same.

If there is one consolation to be drawn from a reading of the reasons provided by the law lords, it is that they, too, now appear to feel strongly that Parliamentary intervention is necessary to save them from further confusion. The error of the Lords is this: they apply a principle of adherence to the statute to confuse Lord Denning, but they do not apply a principle of strict construction to limit the statute. The combination is injurious to liberty.

Marginal improvement

From Sir Peter Vaneck, MEP for Cleveland (Conservative).

Sir, The exhibition of the Post Impressionists at the Royal Academy is quite outstanding and I am delighted to hear that it is being extended to a fortnight before it goes on to the Hermitage Exhibition from Russia which, so rightly, has been cancelled.

However, may I make this comment on the framing of the pictures? Quality there is a difference in quality which strikes one. Those lent by museums and public galleries seem so very banal and unsuitable, while the frames from private collections are largely imaginative and sympathetic.

Of course, this may be only because of tight money, but one hopes that curators will note the comparison and, wherever possible, show off these masterpieces to better advantage.

Yours truly,
PETER VANECK,
City Gate House,
30-32 Finsbury Square, EC2.
February 1.

Boards of Visitors

From Mrs C. M. Romanes
Sir, The 1,500 or more members of Boards of Visitors are at one with their correspondents (February 1) in being aware of the importance of ensuring their independence, of the need to remedy any sense of isolation amongst themselves and to seek ways to make the public better informed as to their activities. Delegates from all boards were given a full opportunity to discuss the formation of a National Association at the last two annual conferences of Boards of Visitors, of which I had the honour to be chairman.

It was the opinion of a large majority that the formation of a national association was, however unlikely to promote its greater effectiveness of Boards of Visitors, as your correspondents suggest, and indeed might on occasions be a hindrance.

At present each board enjoys the right of direct access to the Home Secretary, where it thinks it necessary in the interests of the local penal institution which exists to serve. Delegates saw in advantage in losing this right through the creation, at some expense, of a new bureaucratic machine through which their requests would have to be channelled and might well suffer delay.

As to the genuine sense of isolation prevalent some years ago, it is being dispelled by many boards taking the initiative in arranging visits to other boards and institutions they serve. It is to be hoped that full advantage will be taken of these facilities which contribute to the training that conference members last year considered so important for board members.

Valuable proposals regarding greater publicity and openness for boards were also made at last year's conference and will be further discussed at the forthcoming Chairman's Study Group.

MARGARET ROMANES,
Chairman, Board of Visitors,
HM Borstal, Portland,
Portsmouth House,
Near Weymouth,
Dorset.
February 2.

Abolition of quangos

From Mr Max Morris
Sir, Powerful cases against their abolition as "quangos" are made on behalf of two important bodies in your columns today (February 1).

May I add a plea for the Centre for information and advice on Educational Disadvantage, the sole victim selected from a list of 20 executive quangos by the Department of Education and Science. This closure is very difficult to understand in the light of the Platyky report, which presumably gives the Government the appropriate guidelines for action.

The centre fulfils all the Platyky criteria for survival: its finances are publicly accountable; it is not a vehicle for patronage since none of its governors are paid salaries or emoluments; and, since savings are the object of the exercise, its expenditure of £300,000 is immaterial in relation to total quangos expenditure (£5,800m) or even DES quangos expenditure of £342m. It meets Platyky's criterion as a single purpose organization whose work cannot be performed by the department, and its work must be essential since the department proposes to use some of the savings to do the same job—though we are not told how.

As I have been informed by the Secretary of State that although he is giving the matter further thought, and as he confirmed this to the local education authorities only yesterday, may I hope that he will reverse a decision which has been taken without any of the normal processes of evaluation or consultation. I trust he will follow the procedures wisely recommended in the report (paras 77 and 78) and review the situation with us regularly in a serious examination of our work.

Yours, etc.
MAX MORRIS,
Acting Chairman,
Centre for information and advice on Educational Disadvantage,
11 Anson Road,
Manchester.
February 1.

Phased expansion of reserve forces

From Mr Michael Stephen and Mr Philip Smith

On January 26, the Defence Minister declared: "We must maintain the will to pursue a sustained programme of improvement until our armed forces are capable of surviving any such attack. It is no good complaining when the house has burned down that you have forgotten to pay the insurance premium."

If and when the Soviets decide upon their next step it would be foolish to assume that their military planners will give the West enough warning to remedy the neglect of our armed forces and Mr Pym is right to call for action now.

Since 1945 every young man in the Soviet block has received military training, and their resources of trained manpower are now enormous. By contrast, only a tiny proportion of the men of this country have received any military training at all in the past twenty years, and it is essential that compulsory training be introduced forthwith.

We do not advocate a return to full-time "national service" but every man on reaching the age of 18 should be required to attend a short full-time course of basic training and thereafter to serve in the reserve forces. Much greater efforts should also be made as a matter of urgency to recruit former regular servicemen into reserve units as Officers and NCOs. Any large scale programme of reserve forces must be phased, since our regular forces are so diminished in numbers that they could not immediately provide enough training facilities, even in peacetime.

We do not pretend that reserves can maintain the same degree of technical competence as regulars, but they can be converted far more quickly than raw recruits into effective fighting men.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL STEPHEN,
Foreign Affairs Committee,
Phillip Smith,
Secretary, Defence Committee,
The Bow Group,
240 High Holborn, WC1.

Deaths in police custody

From the Chairman of the Joint Central Committee of the Police Federation of England and Wales

Sir, I welcome Mr Michael Meacher's belated conversation (January 5) to a discussion of the Police Federation published months ago—the failure of the Government of which he was a minister to carry through its commendable promise to provide de-facto centres so that the police could be relieved of the burden of dealing with simple drunkenness among homeless and rootless alcoholics.

It was the Police Federation, months ago, which gave considerable space in its magazine to the threat hanging over the highly successful Leeds centre. If Mr Meacher can remember the threat arose from a squabble between government departments over the allocation of resources to the centre.

I have described the proposed public inquiry into deaths in police custody as a "discovery" for precisely the reasons advanced in Mr Meacher's letter. He now drags in the statistics of complaints of police assault made in one year, 1978, and compares them with deaths in custody over 10 years. He omits to mention that in the year he picked, 1978, the police took 581,000 persons into police custody, of whom 48 died, either in custody or afterwards. It is really surprising that approximately one in every 200 persons arrested subsequently complained that the police assaulted him.

Mr Meacher needs to be reminded that not everyone who is arrested "goes quietly". Many offer violent resistance, especially if they are drunk or feel that they can effect their escape by assaulting the police. The police have always been entitled to use sufficient force to effect a lawful arrest. This does not entitle them to go beyond a level of force necessary to make an arrest, but I can well understand why this gives rise to complaints of assault by the police.

It would have been far more relevant if Mr Meacher had made his comparison with reliable figures such as the number of cases of alleged assault which had been established to the satisfaction of a court of law. Mr Meacher will say, of course, that these figures are suspect because he suspects the dishonesty of the Director of Public Prosecutions to bring charges.

Sir, the argument over deaths in custody has been going on for some months. I find it significant that in spite of all the publicity and the fact, we are still offered only the cases of Liddle Towers (twice probed at public inquests and considered by the Director of Public Prosecutions) and James Kelly, which is being investigated by next month's inquest, as examples of alleged brutality to people in custody. Two cases out of four million people who were in custody between 1970 and 1979.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES JARDINE,
Chairman,
Joint Central Committee,
Police Federation of England and Wales,
15-17 Langley Road,
Surrey,
February 5.

Turning on the tap

From Vice-Admiral Sir Stephen Corliss

Sir, I very much wish that M15 would start tapping the telephone of elder son (with the Home Secretary's personal considered approval) of course.

They would quickly discover that Knightbridge 334 has been out of action for several days, and they might be able to alert the GPO. I am, Sir, etc.
STEPHEN H. CORLISS,
22 Hamilton Court,
Milford-on-Sea,
Lymington,
Hampshire.
February 4.

Trade unions and the rule of law

From Professor Lord Wedderburn of Charlton

Sir, Mr Alexander (February 7) criticizes me for a point I did not make. I suggested (February 4) that recent House of Lords' decisions had asserted with clarity the traditional meaning of the golden formula itself: "in contemplation of furtherance of a trade dispute". Mr Alexander rightly says that the range of actions protected within that formula changed between 1906 and 1976.

He is nevertheless wrong to suggest that this objectionable action was "brought in" in the sense that it alters what Parliament intended in 1906. The Act of 1906 protected inducing breach of contracts of employment in order to make industrial action lawful in cases decided in the 1930s and 1960s, however, the courts widened trade unionists' liabilities, especially by making their industrial action unlawful for interfering with commercial contracts.

The Donovan Report in 1968 unanimously recommended that the acts protected within the golden formula should be extended to just such interference (seven Criminal Law Revision Committee members recommended change to "official" trade union action; five proposed no such restriction). Without such a modification of the 1906 Act, all industrial action would be unlawful at the end of the 1960s, at risk of illegality.

In 1976, therefore, interference with commercial contracts was brought within the protection of the golden formula. Lord Scarman in the *Woods* case in 1979, summarized the modern position rather better than Mr Alexander does, by saying of the 1974 Act as amended in 1976: "... the legislative purpose is clear: to sweep away not only the structure of industrial relations created by the Industrial Relations Act, 1971, which was passed in repeal, but also the restraints of judicial review which the courts have been fashioning one way or another since the enactment of the Trade Disputes Act, 1906."

Strictly put, the law now is back to what Parliament had intended when it enacted the Act of 1906—but stronger and clearer than it was then. Yours sincerely,
WEDDERBURN OF CHARLTON,
25 Woodside Avenue,
Highgate, N6.
February 7.

Double appeal over steel strike

From Mr Leonard Griffiths

Sir, Some of your correspondents and many others who argue about what the law is or was miss an important point.

While the law on striking and picketing has changed little over the years the manner in which trade union conduct has changed profoundly since 1972 when the "flying picket" first emerged on a significant scale at a Birmingham generating station.

Trade unionists were quick to realize that the least slow being the most effective tactic, they used a weapon of quite enormous power which was apparently within the law and the two recent decisions of the House of Lords confirm its legality.

The decision of the House of Lords (February 2) in *Dunlop Steels Ltd and Others v. British Steel Corporation* brought into prominence the law of the lottery. Three Lords of Appeal unanimously reversed the decision of a High Court judge in Chambers by finding for the plaintiffs. Having refused to leave the House of Lords, the House of Lords granted leave to appeal and five Law Lords unanimously reversed the decision of the Court of Appeal and restored the original judgment in favour of the defendants.

Would the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice (my old tutor), the Master of the Rolls, the Chairman of the Bar Council and the President of the Law Society please advise solicitors and counsel how to guide their clients on the face of it, have suffered an injustice? Reference to common law, statute and decided cases is wholly unreliable, as it has proved time and again to be a wasted and thankless task.

Are we lawyers—professionally trained and examined and kept up to date by diligent and time-consuming reading of current law and decisions and, not infrequently, by cursory study of original bills—being asked to operate—operating roulette tables at Monte Carlo and elsewhere? What do our legislators and democratic leaders mean when they preach to us to observe "law and order"?

Why should the litigant pay for the spin of the wheel operated by three courts by nine judges, particularly when judges frequently make new law and the new law must be taken into consideration when advising clients but cannot be relied upon?

Yours faithfully,
WALTER BLUMH,
3 Brangwyn Crescent,
Westdene,
Brighton,
Sussex.

Rejecting the EEC budget

From Mr Roger Broad

Sir, With reference to Michael Shepherd's article (January 25), underlining the significance of last month's rejection by the European Parliament of the Council of Ministers' draft budget for 1980, it is essential to correct one misunderstanding.

The power to reject the budget in its entirety is expressly conferred on the Parliament in Article 203, paragraph 8, of the EEC Treaty, subsequent to the 1975 Treaty amending Certain Financial Provisions.

There has been no recent recognition of this power by "an astute Euro-MP", and the possible exercise of the power has been raised in every annual round of budget debates since it was conferred. Yours faithfully,
ROGER BROAD,
Head of London Information Office,
European Parliament,
20 Kensington Palace Gardens, W8.

What is new, therefore, is the manner in which trade unions may exploit their power and the effect of their conduct on the rest of the community who are not involved in particular industrial disputes.

The effect of the massive extension in the range of the strikes weapon from the employer originally involved in the dispute to any other employer, business or establishment whom the union believes might be a suitably soft hostage is that large sections of the community are no longer free to go about their lawful business (and are deprived of any protection from the law) whenever a trade union chooses to make it so provided that it is "in furtherance of a trade dispute".

Mr Prior's Bill does nothing to reverse this situation, but it should.

Yours faithfully,
LEONARD GRIFFITHS,
Quickset House,
Everleigh,
Marlborough,
Wiltshire,
February 6.

From Sir Geoffrey Vickers, VC
Sir, Why not leave the right to picket with the wide meaning which it has now been declared to have but confine it to its legitimate purpose—inform and persuade—by limiting the numbers on any picket line to those who can do so without intimidating by mere numbers? (An odd idea, I know, but one worth re-examining in desperate times). It would be hard to argue persuasively that a limit higher than three persons.

A picket is not a demonstration. Participants in a demonstration stress by their numbers how strong and widespread is the cause they espouse. But if at the end they wish to present a petition or plead their cause, a small delegation is allowed to do so. A picket by contrast has special immunities and powers precisely because its function, as supposed to be limited to those of the "delegation", is distinct from the demonstration.

The "delegation" is a function of numbers as well as behaviour as everyone knows who has ever approached a crowd that deliberately bars his way. The right to intimidate is not a right of man or of democracy or of the trade union movement; it is a wrong and has always been so.

Picketing is a right. Demonstration is a right. But they are different rights with different limitations and different immunities. The confusion of the two is a form of double talk we need to root out.

Those who oppose such a limitation of numbers on any one picket line could support their argument only by admitting that what they prize is the right to intimidate, not the right to inform and persuade—the bogus right, not the real one. Yours very truly,
GEOFFREY VICKERS,
The Grange,
Manor Road,
Goring,
Berkshire,
February 5.

When, in the early 1970s, the Church of Scientology was amongst those on the now notorious "enemies list" of Mr Nixon, it sought to clear up any and all false reports which had been circulated in the United States and abroad. This is being done through the courts and has been to a large degree successful. The Church is now officially recognized in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Rhodesia, Germany, Sweden and Denmark.

The American proceedings, to which Mr Frampton refers are under appeal at the Supreme Court. Those grounds were recognized as sufficiently serious by the United States Court of Appeals at the end of last year that it granted bail to all defendants. The essence of the grounds of appeal is that the case is political and that COINTELPRO lives on.

That controversy is an internal United States matter. In this country the fact is that the ban on overseas Scientologists was examined for two years by a government inquiry under Sir John Foster, QC. His report concluded that the ban was unjustified and contrary to Anglo-Saxon tradition.

The principle at issue was that just as the law should apply to all equally, so bureaucratic strictures and licence should also apply to all equally, and not depending on political, religious or racial categories.

The opposite of that principle is the exclusiveness advocated by Mr Frampton.

Sincerely,
TOM MINCHIN,
Director of Public Affairs (UK),
The Church of Scientology,
Stair Hill Manor,
East Grinstead,
Sussex.

From the Reverend Roger Brown
Sir, I was interested to read Mr Patrick Lake's letter on Scientology (January 29) and in particular his comment that Scientology is "not about religion, but about the mind."

If Scientology is not a religious cult, why is the headquarters in East Grinstead called The Church of Scientology, why is there a chapel there, why are there baptisms, and why are there Holy Marriage and why do some members of the "cult" wear clerical collars, as I have observed them do, when they are not bona fide ministers of religion?

Sir, have the honour to remain your orthodox Christian (Church of England) servant,
ROGER BROWN,
St Swithun's Parish Church,
East Grinstead.

Delayed decisions on arts grants

From Mr Ellis Birk

Sir, We are one of the many hundreds of organizations regularly in receipt of a small Arts Council grant, which helps to bridge the gap between what we receive from the box office and what we pay out in expenses. Without this grant we shall undoubtedly close and without adequate notification of what it might be, we can make no plans for future programmes.

We are now within eight weeks of the start of the new financial year and the Arts Council has not yet received advance notification of the government allocation for the forthcoming financial year commencing April, 1980.

Inability to plan is catastrophic and it is little use telling us in April that certain money is available, when we shall have already abandoned seasons and sacked companies.

How can we impress upon the Government that the arts are not the few great assets Britain has still to offer the world which can and do earn both money and prestige?

Can the Arts Council be enabled to plan far at least the next three months? If not the next three years?
Yours faithfully,
ELLIS BIRK,
Chairman,
Round House Trust Limited,
Chalk Farm Road, NW1.

Christians and cults

From Mr Tom Minchin

Sir, The flow in Mr Frampton's argument of January 17 is that he presents, but one side of the case. Viewed in the round, the picture is rather different.

When the Church of Scientology in the United States embarked on its campaign against unethical psychiatric practices by the CIA in the early 1950s, it was not aware that a programme called COINTELPRO existed. COINTELPRO was the FBI's campaign to discredit internal "disloyal" groups by circulating false information about them.

The Church of Scientology was one of 20,000 individuals and groups so targeted in the United States. Unlike many, including Jean Seberg who allegedly committed suicide as a result of CIA harassment, the Church of Scientology weathered the storm, albeit as the recipient of a good many "dirty tricks", including forging Church policy letters.

When, in the early 1970s, the Church was covered by the now notorious "enemies list" of Mr Nixon, it sought to clear up any and all false reports which had been circulated in the United States and abroad. This is being done through the courts and has been to a large degree successful. The Church is now officially recognized in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Rhodesia, Germany, Sweden and Denmark.

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Sir, have the honour to remain your orthodox Christian (Church of England) servant,
ROGER BROWN,
St Swithun's Parish Church,
East Grinstead.

Life-saving equipment

From Mr G. B. L. Wilson

Sir, The extract "25 years ago" of February 2 about the letter which the famous chef Alexis Soyer wrote to *The Times* on February 2, 1855, reminds me that when I was on the staff of the Museum and collecting material for the new history of Domestic Appliances gallery, I wrote in 1971 to the Army School of Cookery asking if they could let us have one of the original Soyer stoves for exhibition.

They replied regretting that they no longer had an original stove but they would gladly let us have one in current use by the Army. I accepted it—it has not changed in over a hundred years—and it stands in the Gallery beneath a contemporary print of Soyer surrounded by the Crimean generals looking gratefully at his stove, which is said to have saved more lives than Florence Nightingale herself.

Yours faithfully,
G. B. L. WILSON,
54 Mortlake Road,
Kew Gardens,
Surrey.

Design of donor cards

From Mrs David Ganner

Sir, In view of the recent publicity about donor cards and the advantages to transplant surgery (report, January 30) if they are carried at all times, might I, through the courtesy of your columns, urge that they be redesigned into a more practical format?

The present cards (5in x 4in) are too large for purse or wallet and too flimsy to survive transfer from pocket to pocket or the daily rough-and-tumble of a handbag. Let them fit in with our collection of credit and bank cards or tick neatly in with the driving licence and more will be found at the moment they are needed.

Yours faithfully,
JANET W. GAMMER,
Heathcroft,
Elvendon Road,
Goring,
Reading,
Berkshire,
February 4.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
February 6: By command of The Queen, the Lord Hamilton of Dalzell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the departure of the King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and bade farewell to His Majesty on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 7: The Duke of Edinburgh arrived in the Royal Train at Aberdeen Station this morning and was received by the Lord Provost of Aberdeen (Mr W. J. Fraser).

His Royal Highness afterwards flew from Dyce Airport to visit the Safety Year at Tharow, near the Piper Platform in the North Sea.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Air Commodore, later visited the Safety Year at Tharow, near the Piper Platform in the North Sea.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 6: The Prince of Wales, Patron, the British Film Institute, was present this evening at a performance of the film "Red Dust" at the National Film Theatre, London SE1.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 7: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, at the Service of Thanksgiving for Miss Joyce Grenfell which was held in Westminster Abbey this afternoon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Baxter and Miss L. Woodcombe
This engagement is announced between Mr A. Baxter, son of Mr and Mrs P. W. Baxter, of 12 King Edward's Road, Rushlip, and Lucinda (Lucy), fourth daughter of Mr and Mrs M. J. Woodcombe, of 19 St Leonard's Road, Ealing, and Hemerton House, Pympton, Devon.

Mr N. R. G. Carrington and Miss L. M. Hartley
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place on May 17 between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs T. G. Carrington, of Nighogale, Crecston, West Herts, and Miss L. M. Hartley, daughter of Mr R. H. Hartley and the late Mrs Muriel Hartley, of Kilm House, Burton-on-Lansdale, Lancashire.

Mr D. G. Cassidy and Miss R. E. Wells
The engagement is announced between Dennis, son of Mr and Mrs C. D. Cassidy, of Nairobi, Kenya, and Miss R. E. Wells, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Wells, of Clun, Shropshire.

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The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of the Rev T. H. M. and Mrs Llewellyn, of Barton Stacey, Hampshire, and Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs T. E. St Aubyn, of Wotton St Lawrence, Hampshire.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 7: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, at President, this evening attended the Dockland Settlements annual Dinner held at the Banqueting Rooms, Whitehall.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 7: The Duke of Kent, at President, this evening attended the National Army Museum at Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Miss Carol Godman Irvine.

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace on March 4.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the Royal Society of Arts, will preside at a meeting of the Committee for the Environment at Buckingham Palace on February 13.

The Duke of Edinburgh will chair the selection panel for The Duke of Edinburgh Design Prize at the Design Centre, Haymarket, on February 20.

The Duke of Edinburgh will open the "British Growers' Look Ahead" national conference and exhibition of the National Farmers' Union at Harrogate, on February 26.

A memorial service for Lord Pearson will be held in the Temple Church at 4.45 pm on Tuesday, March 4, 1980.

Birthdays today
Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, 77; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat, 67; Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, 67; Mr Harold Greville, 74; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, 65; Rabbi Dr I. Jakobovits, 59; Sir Leonard Silkin, 84; Sir Kenneth Madocks, 73; Lord O'Brien of Louth, 72; Lord Rye, 62; Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. Russell, 50; Professor Sir Richard Southern, 50.

Mr J. P. C. Chauncy and Miss P. A. M. Wheat
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. P. C. Chauncy, of Hershman, Surrey, and Felicity, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. A. Wheat, of Wimslow, Cheshire.

Mr G. F. Flynn and Miss A. S. Taylor
This engagement is announced between Gordon, son of Mr and Mrs G. F. Flynn, of Glasgow and Allon, and Miss A. S. Taylor, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Taylor, of West Kirby, Wirral.

Mr M. J. Wakefield and Miss B. M. Dearbergh
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs M. J. Wakefield, of Nighogale, Crecston, West Herts, and Miss B. M. Dearbergh, daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Dearbergh, of 10 Pembroke Road, London, W8.

Mr A. B. Davis and Mrs S. L. Evans
The marriage took place on February 7, 1980 at St Mary the Boltons Church, Kensington, London, between Mr A. B. Davis, son of Mr and Mrs A. B. Davis, of Raigate, Surrey, and Mrs S. L. Evans, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Millar, of Sydney, Australia.

Science report

Medicine: Ethics in geriatric units

By Our Medical Correspondent
When elderly geriatric patients become unable to take food by mouth their doctors should let them die peacefully, rather than giving fluids and nutrition into a vein or through a stomach tube. In such circumstances patients should be given a choice, according to a report in the *British Medical Journal* today.

Doctors at Lund University, Sweden, and a university theologian, Professor Goran Bexell, reached those conclusions after a study of patients in a long-stay geriatric unit at St Erik Hospital. Some of the patients admitted

Concert
ROYAL MARINES
The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, attended a concert at the Royal Albert Hall given by the Royal Marines in aid of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children and Service Children on Wednesday evening.

The concert, given annually in February, was this year a tribute to the late Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Life Lord and Commander of the Royal Marines, and his wife, the Countess of Mountbatten of Burma, who died in 1960. The concert was given by the Royal Marines, and the Mountbatten of Burma and the Countess of Mountbatten of Burma were represented by Mr David and Lady Pamela Hicks at a second concert held last night at the Albert Hall.

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Bishop Runcie elected at crypt ceremony in Canterbury

By Clifford Langley
Religious Affairs
In a secret ceremony in the Norman crypt of Canterbury Cathedral yesterday, the Bishop of St Albans, the Right Rev Robert Runcie, was elected unanimously by the Dean and Chapter to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. His was the only nomination, addressed to the assembled dignitaries in a letter signed by the Queen.

Although Bishop Runcie's appointment has long been known, and the possibility of the Dean and Chapter rejecting his name was exceedingly remote, yesterday's ceremony was the first formal legal step in the process of electing a new Archbishop. If his name had failed to receive a majority of votes cast, a complex legal wrestling match would have followed.

Archbishop of Canterbury has to be confirmed at a ceremony in St Paul's Cathedral, London, on February 25, from which date he takes office. He was not present at Canterbury yesterday; he is visiting America.

The Dean of Canterbury, the Very Rev Victor Hall, said afterwards that the result "signified the new Archbishop's election by the clear moral support and welcome of the cathedral and diocese".

Even though the penalties have long been abolished, a refusal to elect the Queen's nominee would appear to have constituted the crime of praemunire, a medieval offence which was traditionally punished by banishment and disqualification. It appears to be the case that the Archbishop General will seek a High Court order obliging them to do as they were bidden on pain of contempt.

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Scaling down of duties advocated

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent
Some scaling down of the duties of an Archbishop of Canterbury to reflect the changing role of the office in the 21st century has been suggested by a group of senior churchmen.

The preface, published with official authority as the Year Book of the General Synod, is a General Synod publication, in the state of the Church of England at the close of the reign of one Archbishop and the start of another. The title of the Archbishop of Canterbury, it says, ought to be debated by the General Synod.

"There seems to be general agreement that the burden should be reduced", it says. "Most people seem to agree that there is no single monolith—that what is needed is a general stripping of the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury of its traditional accretions."

Among possible remedies, the preface suggests that the archdiocese of Canterbury could be reduced in size and administered by a bishop under the archbishop's general supervision.

The Church of England ought to cut down its demands on the archbishop's time, with invitations to public engagements and services, and the archbishop himself "must harden his heart" against too many engagements. The burden of central church work on him should also be reduced, and he

should be given an adequate staff at Lambeth Palace to help him. The appointment of the Bishop of St Albans, the Right Rev Robert Runcie, as the next Archbishop of Canterbury had been greeted with general acclaim, the preface remarks, and the Runcie family handled their sudden fame "with remarkable grace and unflinching good humour".

Then, and since, it adds, "there has been an air of expectancy as though Kennedy was preparing to succeed Eisenhower. It is the kind of expectancy which is aroused when one generation succeeds another." Without intending disrespect to his predecessor, it says, the new Archbishop is a man of the post-war world and the post-war church.

The Dean of Canterbury, the Very Rev Victor Hall, said afterwards that the result "signified the new Archbishop's election by the clear moral support and welcome of the cathedral and diocese".

Even though the penalties have long been abolished, a refusal to elect the Queen's nominee would appear to have constituted the crime of praemunire, a medieval offence which was traditionally punished by banishment and disqualification. It appears to be the case that the Archbishop General will seek a High Court order obliging them to do as they were bidden on pain of contempt.

Bishop Runcie's election as Archbishop of Canterbury has to be confirmed at a ceremony in St Paul's Cathedral, London, on February 25, from which date he takes office. He was not present at Canterbury yesterday; he is visiting America.

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OBITUARY

CAMARA LAYE Leading African novelist

Camara Laye, a leading French-language African novelist, died in Senegal on February 4. He was 52. Laye was in exile from Guinea and had been given refuge in Senegal since 1965 by President Senghor. He was a noted French language African writer and poet.

Laye was perhaps the most substantial of African novelists writing in French; and though his work was totally devoid of overt black nationalist commitment, so devoid indeed that his first novel was castigated as colourless by nationalist Africans, he was profoundly African in them. His novels dealt not with the aspirations of Africans in the colonial and post-colonial world, but with the mysterious African past and its weakening power over the African contemporary consciousness.

Camara Laye was born in Kouroussa in what was then French Guinea, the son of a parent of the Mende tribe in an area largely untouched by French colonialism. His father was a goldsmith, a craft traditionally associated with magic, and his mother was said to possess magical powers. Laye's earliest memories were of his father's mourning incantations to the spirits of his fire and gold, and his sensibility developed in an ethos dominated by tribal animism.

For the environment Laye went on to gain a French education. He went to school first locally and then in the capital, where he trained as an engineer at the technical college. After graduating he left for Paris where he worked for a time in the Simca factory. By now a man educated to a considerable standard in the formal French manner he began to feel his isolation from his African background, an isolation which he explored in the traditional

French prose in which he had been trained. This produced his first novel *L'Enfant noir* (1953), translated as *The Dark Child* (1955).

A frankly autobiographical novel *L'Enfant noir* recalled with almost anthropological exactness, but with the African insight denied to white anthropologists, his childhood in the rain forests of equatorial Africa; its crocodile infested rivers in which his mother could bathe unharmed because of her guardian moths; so fearsome to a young boy; and the sense of a present alive with the spirits of the departed. *L'Enfant noir* might not please young nationalist activists because it appeared as a portrait of a "dark" Africa calculated to reinforce the prejudices of colonial overlords, but in fact it was a potent lament for a vanishing past, a way of life increasingly thrown out of balance by westernization.

His second novel, *Le Regard du Roi*, appeared in 1954 and was translated as *The Radiance of the King* in 1956. More complex than his predecessor *Le Regard du Roi* showed the influence of Kafka but was not said to be subversive. It was a tale of a white man rejected by his society, who seeks a road to peace and knowledge through the square of enslavement in an African caravanserai. It triumphantly brought the soil of Africa into the French language.

In his later years Laye wrote little. In 1955 he returned to Guinea and after the country's independence entered politics and held some posts of responsibility. He was in Guinea when the authorities eventually compelled him to leave Guinea for Senegal where he had worked as a university teacher.

Drummond (1966) was translated as *A Dream of Africa* in 1968.

MR DAVID WILLS

Mr W. David Wills, who died on February 2 at the age of 76, pioneered new methods of caring for the deprived, disturbed and delinquent throughout this century from the moment in 1922 when, as a "brother" in a punitive-orientated Farm Training Colony he came to realize that "short sharp shocks" were no substitute for life-long care.

His first experiment in alternative methods was in the foundation of the Hawkspur Camp in 1936, which combined shared responsibility with intensive caring environment within a psycho-therapeutic framework. His *Hawkspur Experiment* (1941). His last experiment was at Revold House, a hostel for maladjusted and delinquent working youths (1963-1968).

He was a founder member of the first chairman of the Placed Environmental Therapy Trust (1965), which sought to systematise and promote the concepts and methods which he had pioneered and also of the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry* (1964), which founded to further the new perspective treatment of delinquency. His biography, *Home Land* (1964) was an appreciation of one of the earliest pioneers in this field. He was a member of NACRO and the author of *Commonsense and about young offenders* (1964) and his last published work was a contribution to *Six Quays look at Crime and Punishment* (1979).

MR A. J. B. KIDDELL

A Correspondent writes: Mr A. J. B. Kiddell, who died on February 5, worked for Sotheby's and played an important role in bringing the firm to prominence. Blessed with an unusual sense of order, a superb eye and a truly phenomenal memory, he acquired a very wide range of knowledge of art. His opinions were sought by a multitude of collectors—particularly in the field of Oriental and European ceramics, and glass—and he held a distinguished collection of time. He was an outstanding linguist, and his absolute integrity and infectious enthusiasm helped to create an enormous number of friendships with buyers, both private and professional. He could bear to retire in the usual sense and continued to come up in his Bond Street office punctually at 8.30 each morning until last year.

He was born in 1895 and spent his early childhood in India, where his father was a member of the Indian Civil Service. He was educated at Eton and then at Balliol College, Oxford, where he was a member of the Oxford Ceramic Society in 1922. The English Ceramic Circle (of which he was president from 1957 to 1974) in 1927 and the Glass Circle in 1937. He devoted much time and effort to helping refugees from Nazi Germany in the late 1930s, and played a major part in keeping sales going at Sotheby's during the Second World War. He became a director of the firm in 1947. He was unusually generous in passing on his knowledge to others and trained many of the young entrants to Bond Street in the 1950s and 1960s. His "Black Museum" of fakes and forgeries was the subject of a television programme.

His marriage to Audrey Schofield in 1922 was a particularly happy one until her death in 1963.

MRS HANNA ROVINA

Mrs Hanna Rovina, one of the creators of the Hebrew language Theatre, died on February 2 at the age of 90. A student in founding the Habima Theatre Group in her native Russia in 1918. The troupe, which moved to Tel Aviv in 1931 after successful tours of Europe and America, established the Hebrew drama and made important contributions to the arts and language of the Jewish state.

MR HUGH WATT

Mr Hugh Watt, PC, who was Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand from 1972 to 1974, died on February 4. He was 67. Watt became Deputy Prime Minister to Mr Norman Kirk when the Labour Party won the elections of that year but when the latter died in Office in 1974 his own bid for the premiership was not successful. Mr Wallace Rowling, becoming the new Prime Minister, from 1975 to 1976 Kirk was High Commissioner for New Zealand in London.

Mr Justas Paleckis, the first Prime Minister of the Baltic republic of Lithuania under Soviet rule, has died at the age of 81. Tass, the Soviet news agency reported today.

1574 miniature for sale

By Geraldine Norman
A miniature portrait of Nicholas Hilliard, painted by the artist himself, is for sale. The miniature is a portrait of a young bride, Jane Boughn, nee Comyngham, at the age of 21 and belongs to Hilliard's first period, Jane, with her auburn hair tightly waved, is shown in head and shoulders; the miniature is circular and measures 4.2cm across. The painting is on vellum and she is mounted in a stained ivory frame.

Many Hilliard miniatures

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Stock markets	
FT Index 462.9 up 7.0	FT Gilt 66.05 up 0.57
Sterling	
\$2,300 down 1.25 cents	Index 72.9 down 0.1
Dollar	
Index 84.9 unchanged	
Gold	
\$697.5 down \$20	
Money	
3 mth sterling 17½ to 17c	3 mth Euro \$ 144 to 144
6 mth Euro \$ 141 to 141	

IN BRIEF**Car production up**

Passenger cars produced in Britain during January totalled 98,000, an increase of 6 per cent, while commercial vehicles rose by nearly 9 per cent. Since August there has been a steady rise in output from both the passenger and the commercial sectors.

More fire damage

Fire damage in England, Scotland and Wales rose to £355.3m last year, compared with £309.3m in 1978, according to latest estimates from the British Insurance Association.

Lorino sale settled

Final details for the sale of Gulf Fisheries' 19 per cent stake in Lorino to Mr Graham Lecky were resolved yesterday. But Sheikh Nasser will consider them before any official announcement is made, which will probably be early next week.

Financial News, page 20

China to seek \$20,000m

China will borrow more than \$20,000m (£8,700m) on the international capital markets between now and 1985, according to Mr Yang Bo, vice chairman of the state planning commission. The Bank of China in London and Luxembourg will borrow direct from foreign banks and may also float loans on capital markets.

Labour amendments

The Labour Party has tabled a series of about 50 amendments to the Companies Bill, including revisions to the clauses on insider dealing, industrial democracy and holding companies' liability for their subsidiaries.

Spain finds oil

Spain has found oil off its north-western coast but it is not yet known whether the deposit is exploitable, says a spokesman for Shell Espana SA. The find, about 31 kilometres north of Gijón, was the third in the area.

More Meccano talks

The union negotiating team from the Meccano toy plant on the Edge Hill industrial estate at Liverpool has left for London for another meeting with the board of Airfix Industries, the parent company. Hard negotiations on a final settlement is expected.

Venezuela plans cut

Venezuela plans to cut its 2.2 million barrels a day oil output to about one million barrels a day in the long term, says Enrique Tejera Paris, the Venezuelan socialist leader said in an interview in Vienna.

Union rejects offer

Trade union negotiators representing more than 1 million metalworkers in the West German state of North Rhine-Westphalia have rejected a 6.8 per cent pay offer. An employers' association spokesman said in Gelsenkirchen. He said the union demands wage increases of 9.6 per cent.

Hedderwick Stirling

Hedderwick Stirling Grumbar has asked Stirling to make it clear that Mr Colin Franklin, the firm's managing director, is retiring and has not resigned from the firm. Hedderwick said that Mr Franklin "continues to enjoy the respect of everybody in this firm both for his ability and integrity".

PRICE CHANGES

Rises					
Asian Trdg	30p to 350p	Imp Cont Gns	33p to 750p	Bank	33p to 750p
Audiotech	1p to 8p	Lasno	11p to 75p	buys	11p to 75p
Broken Hill	30p to 300p	Kopper	7p to 35p	Bank	7p to 35p
Castell	42p to 300p	Stone Platt	30p to 350p	Wholesale	30p to 350p
Gulfrine	20p to 75p				
Falls					
Advent	10p to 175p	Ragion Prop	1p to 41p	Bank	1p to 41p
Anglo Amer Ind	20p to 850p	San Viscosa	2p to 34p	buys	2p to 34p
De Beers Ind	20p to 610p	Solihelms Law	2p to 36p	Bank	2p to 36p
Edinburgh Gold	10p to 535p	W Rand Cons	10c to 750c	Wholesale	10c to 750c
Norbridge Ex	10p to 535p				

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank		Bank	Bank
	buys	sells		buys	sells
Australia \$	2.12	2.05	Netherlands Gld	4.62	4.39
Austria Sch	30.25	28.25	Norway Kr	11.62	11.12
Belgium F	69.00	65.50	Portugal Esc	117.00	111.00
Canada \$	2.73	2.66	Spain Ptas	151.75	151.75
Denmark Kr	12.99	12.40	South Africa Rd	2.00	1.95
Finland Mk	8.80	8.40	Sweden S	3.90	3.68
France Fr	9.67	9.27	Switzerland Fr	2.36	2.30
Germany Dm	4.19	3.97	US \$	55.00	49.00
Greece Dr	95.00	90.00	Yugoslavia Dnr	55.00	55.00
Hongkong \$	11.33	10.95			
Ireland Pd	1.11	1.07			
Italy Lir	1953.00	1845.00			
Japan Yen	577.00	552.00			

Britain asks EEC to impose quota restrictions on US fibre exports

By John Huxley

Britain has applied to the European Commission to impose temporary quotas on imports of man-made textiles in a long awaited move to thwart the flood of low cost goods from the United States.

The application, which is expected to be dealt with in five days, covers polyester filament yarn, nylon carpet yarn and tufted carpets of man-made fibres.

Announcing the move yesterday, Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, said he did not believe that it would provoke retaliation by the United States.

Mr Nott said that the quotas provided a breathing space for Britain's hard pressed man-made fibre and carpet industries. He hoped that at the end of it British industry would be sufficiently efficient to compete with the Americans.

Action is being sought under article 19 of the GATT. Only once previously has this been used by Britain with European Community agreement. That was in 1977 to limit imports of portable black and white television sets from South Korea.

Mr Nott pointed out that the United States has itself invoked Article 19 on nine occasions in the past decade.

President Carter has himself indicated that he intended to "control aggressively any import surges from any country causing disruption of the American textile market whether from one source or otherwise".

However, the argument that dual energy pricing had enabled United States import penetration to soar. In the case of polyester filament yarn penetration climbed from 7.1 per cent to more than 25 per cent in 1979.

Such rises have caused serious damage to British industry. Employment in the man-made fibre sector fell between 1976 and 1979 from 35,000 to 27,500, and in recent months several thousand more redundancies have been announced by manufacturers.

facturers, including Courtauld and ICI.

Employment in the carpet industry over the past three years has also fallen from 35,000 to around 30,000.

The minister recognizes that concern has also been expressed by producers of downstream products (household textiles, knitted and woven fabrics) sales of which have also been disrupted. However, Mr Nott decided that there was not at present a case under the GATT for restricting these imports.

These would be monitored carefully.

No indication of the likely level of quotas was given although it is understood that they will cut back American imports from the levels achieved last year.

Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the commissioner responsible for external relations, will today see at first hand the effect on British industry of the imports surge.

Accompanied by Sir Fred Catherwood, chairman of the European Parliament's external relations committee, Herr Haferkamp will visit an ICI fibres plant in Pontypool and then fly on to the Carrickfergus plant of Courtauld in Northern Ireland.

Later in Belfast he will meet leaders of the man-made fibre industry, which employs more than 6,000 people in Northern Ireland. He has been invited to Britain by the Man Made Fibres Producers Committee.

The industry's reaction to the announcement was mixed. The British Textile Confederation welcomed the Government's initiative to curb cheap United States imports but added that it was looking for a "rapid and positive" response by the Commission to the United Kingdom Government's request for action.

The BTC is disappointed that the United Kingdom has not asked for action on a number of synthetic products where it feels action is required. It is also disappointed that no announcement on base levels for import quotas has been made.

GEC ready to challenge fresh bid by Rascal

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

The takeover battle for Decca intensified yesterday. The stock market had hardly had time to digest Rascal's new £93m bid when GEC announced that it would return to the fray this morning with an increased offer.

Rascal had taken three days to come back with its response to GEC's surprise counterbid of £82.5m in cash. In doing so it increased its all-equity offer for Decca from £65m to £93m with the Rascal share price at 217p. But Rascal matched GEC's cash offer exactly, a commitment it would meet from internal funds and borrowings if it had to.

Last night GEC issued a short statement saying that it would make an increased offer this morning. It is expected at least to match Rascal's equity offer with cash something which it can well afford to do given its substantial funds, and thus force Rascal to arrange an underwriting operation for its shares if it wish to go further.

With Rascal's new offer on the table Decca's ordinary shares gained 15p to 550p, although the £9.4 non-voting shares fell 2p to 417p. In both cases this is some way short of Rascal's best terms, though there remains a nagging doubt over whether the whole situation will be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Rascal is still carrying the implied support of the Decca board, now under the chairmanship of Mr Graham Maw Rascal referred yesterday to the fact that the late Sir Edward Lewis, who had for years regarded takeover overtures as "a curse on the nation", had finally given his blessing for a bid for Decca to Mr Ernest Harrison, Rascal's chairman. A few days later Sir Edward died but the Decca board obviously feels that his wishes should be carried out—not only if Rascal but also if Decca shareholders would roll.

Rascal also senses that some parts of the Decca workforce might prefer Rascal to GEC. Mr Harrison went out of his way yesterday to reject ideas that if Rascal gained Decca "needs would roll".

Financial Editor, page 19

Deloitte pay £900,000 to settle liquidator's claim but deny negligence on behalf of partners

Deloitte Haskins & Sells have agreed to pay £900,000 in settlement of a claim brought against them by the liquidator of London & County Securities, the fringe bank whose collapse in 1973 precipitated the secondary banking crisis.

A writ alleging negligence on the part of London & County's auditors, Harmond Banner (which merged with Deloitte in May 1974) was filed in May 1977. The liquidator claimed £3.75m, plus interest and costs. Deloitte, who continue to deny negligence on behalf of the partners of Harmond Banner, estimate that if the case had run its full course it might have taken another six months to settle and have involved a potential liability of over £10m.

The settlement is the second

highest agreed by a firm of accountants in Britain in respect of a professional indemnity claim. Last summer Mann Judd, which has subsequently merged with Touche Ross, agreed to pay a figure, believed to be about £1.8m, in respect of a claim arising out of its services to Barrow Hepburn leather group. More recently the German arm of Pricewaterhouse Mitchell, another of the "big eight" accounting firms, had judgment given against it in respect of a £13m claim arising from its advice to a subsidiary of UBS on an acquisition in Germany.

Although the partners of Deloitte will have to carry part of the settlement themselves, most of the cost will be covered by professional indemnity insurance which the firm, in common with most of the big eight, arranges through Lloyds.

Deloitte say that in agreeing to settle, the partners have taken into account the very heavy costs incurred, and that the fact that the case went on, and the fact that all concerned have an interest in disposing of a problem which has been outstanding for so long.

Mr Stanley Wilkins, deputy senior partner of the firm, said yesterday that the cost had to be measured not merely in financial terms, but also in the time of the senior people who were tied up on the case. Deloitte said that the settlement figures is a small proportion of the amount claimed.

Mr Langdon, the liquidator, of London & County Securities, said last night that the size of the settlement had to be measured against the actual claim, of which about £4.2m reflected a claim for consequential losses which was breaking new legal ground. Even if that claim had been admitted, there was no certainty over the size of the damages that might have been awarded to the claimants.

In addition, he said, the costs of the case were very high, and at best only taxed costs (estimated by the court) would be recovered. He said that, as liquidator, it had been necessary for him to have the award approved by the Companies Court. Approval was given yesterday afternoon.

Financial Editor, page 19

Sir Keith lays down tighter controls for BSC finances

By Peter Hill

New and stricter monitoring of the British Steel Corporation's finances have been laid down by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, for the new financial year which begins in April.

The BSC, which today reopens negotiations with the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation over the pay claim which has led to the strike, will be required to provide more detailed information on its requirements for funds and its disbursement of them from month to month.

Terms of the new controls have been outlined by Sir Keith in a memorandum to Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman. Under present procedures, the corporation must send a monthly statement to the Department of Industry for cash to be set against the cash limit (set next year at £450m). The request is usually made about the middle of each month.

From next month, the BSC must submit its estimated cash requirement for the following month, indicating how much it will need to cover fixed capital investment, working capital and for closures and redundancies. Provided that the level of cash required falls roughly within the terms of the £450m limit, approval will be given by the end of the month involved.

But in mid-May Sir Keith is asking the corporation to provide details not only of its requirements for the coming month but also a statement on the actual amount of money it has spent on capital investment, working capital, and redundancy in April. On the basis of that information, his

department will decide whether adjustments should be made in the allocations for the June-July period.

The tighter monitoring of the corporation—whose losses in the current year will be well over £400m as a result of the strike—is designed to reinforce the Government's insistence that public funds should not be used to finance losses.

Methods of covering losses have been examined by the corporation in talks with ministers concentrating on the reduction of physical stocks and the disposal of assets.

Originally the Government was anxious that at least part of the proceeds from disposal should be available to contribute to its target of reducing the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement for 1980-81 by £500m. It has accepted that funds arising from the disposal of assets can be used to cover any operating loss.

The intention was that in the second half of the next financial year, when the corporation expected to be moving into profit, a proportion of funds derived from disposal of assets would be used to reduce the P.S.B.R. This possibility has now been ruled out.

Steel and car talks

Mr Niyaki Kikuchi, Japan's deputy foreign minister will travel to Washington on Sunday for talks on bilateral economic issues, including sales of Japanese vehicles and steel in the United States government sources in Tokyo

PO expects to reach targets despite £121m fall in half-year profits

Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

The Post Office's half-year profits slumped from £170.2m to £158.1m in the period announced yesterday, but it expects a sufficient recovery to meet the Government's financial targets by the end of March.

Posts supplied a £12m loss in the six months to the end of September, compared with a £24.2m profit in the corresponding period a year earlier.

The main cause of the drop in telecommunications' half-year profits from £144.7m to £60m was the prolonged industrial action which held up telephone billings for much of the relevant period.

Posts, which is a heavily labour-intensive business with wage costs accounting for more than 80 per cent of total overheads, is expected to be a wage settlement averaging 5 per cent instead of the 5 per cent budgeted for under the past Government's pay policy.

Industrial action at computer centres also disrupted the general flow of statistical and financial information and caused a two-month delay in the publication of the interim figures.

Much of the lost ground is expected to be recovered by a combination of tariff increases and an efficiency drive which, it is hoped, will top about £10m off postal costs. The Post Office said yesterday that each of its three businesses expects to achieve profits close to the Government's financial targets by the end of March but are unlikely to match the £375.1m surplus recorded last year.

In a comprehensive internal review of the postal operation is

being carried out in preparation for the splitting of the corporation. The Post Office's review of the necessary legislation are due to be submitted to the Department of Industry by April. However, Sir William Barlow, the chairman, has already said that big changes may be needed in the service is not to become too expensive.

At a local level, postal managers are aiming for improvements which, it is hoped, will save £10m in the current financial year without affecting quality of service and also achieve more efficient use of staff.

A more general economy measure is the gradual phasing out of postal orders by replacing them with other methods of money transmission. Rising operating costs of the postal order service are expected to lead to its making a £2m loss in the current financial year, although National Girobank, a whole is expected to increase its profits from the £4.6m reported last year. During the six months to the end of September, Giro's profits went up from £1.5m to £2.2m.

The interim results formed the main item on the agenda of the first meeting of the corporation's newly-formed executive boards last month. The boards, whose chairmen have yet to be announced, have been set up in expectation of the split of telecommunications from the rest of the Post Office. The main corporation board will remain until after the legislation, expected to be introduced in the next financial year, has been enacted.

The German experience, page 19

Banks concerned by new exchange guidelines

By Ronald Pullen
Banking Correspondent

Concern is being expressed by some banks in the City that the proposed new guidelines from the Bank of England governing their foreign currency exposure after the ending of exchange controls could prove unduly restrictive.

Those most likely to be affected are the 350 or so foreign banks in the City, many of whom use London as the centre for their worldwide foreign exchange dealings.

At present the paper has not been circulated widely and the banks are working out their response to the new guidelines

through their umbrella organization the British Bankers Association.

The document has caused some surprise among senior bankers because it is couched in very general terms and the first demand from the association is likely to be for "clarification" of some of the definitions used.

Although it is only a consultative document at present, the Bank is understood to want to lay down certain quantitative ratios to regulate banks' foreign exchange positions.

The main worry among some foreign banks is that their foreign exchange positions will be related to capital adequacy.

Because most foreign banks have very little in the way of assets in this country, they fear that their competitive position could be undermined or that their head offices overseas may have to pump more capital into the United Kingdom to support larger foreign exchange books.

The new guidelines arise from the abolition of exchange controls last October. Under the former Exchange Control Act, banks' foreign exchange dealings were closely monitored by the Bank of England.

The ending of controls has meant in theory that banks could run their foreign currency business as freely as they wanted within the confines of prudent banking.

The Bank of England is anxious to introduce a system for keeping an eye on banks' foreign exchange exposure as part of its broader role under the new Banking Act of supervising the banking system.

The association's working party is expected to take another two to three weeks to discuss the paper and a final meeting with the Bank of England is likely next month. It is one of three important policy documents for supervision of the banking system expected from the bank in the next few months: one on capital adequacy has already been widely circulated and another on liquidity is expected next month.

British industry gets £81m Community grants

The EEC Commission has approved grants totalling £30m from the European Community's regional fund for investments by the Ford Motor Co on plants in Wales and on Merseyside.

The grants are part of £81m approved for industrial and public sector infrastructure projects in Britain by the Commission in its first allocation under the Fund's 1980 budget.

Both plants will be involved in the production of the new range of small cars and vans code-named Erika. The fund will contribute £2m to Halewood on Merseyside, while the Ford plant at Bridgend in mid-Glamorgan will receive grants totalling £21m, including £10.23m first announced last month.

These grants will bring the total received by Britain since the fund began operating in 1975 to £501m.

Federal Reserve to introduce new official definitions Money puzzle for the analysts

The growth in the use of credit cards, money market funds, and new methods of payment is causing economists to redefine what actually constitutes money.

This week, the Federal Reserve System, the authority responsible for managing money in the United States is to unveil its own official new definitions. Analysts say they probably will expand greatly the types of financial assets that are considered the equivalent of money.

In the past, the Fed has concentrated on the basic money supply, M1, which is the total of private current account deposits and cash in public hands. This was because people used to pay for their purchases by cash or cheque.

With new and more flexible deposit facilities, consumers and businesses no longer have to keep as much of their funds in current accounts for their transactions.

Analysts believe the Fed's new money supply definitions will take into account some of the new investment facilities

available. Mr Donald Maude, a senior vice president of Merrill Lynch Government Securities, believes that the Fed will include so-called repurchase agreements in some money stock measures.

In a repurchase agreement, corporations buy securities from a bank or other investor, which agrees to buy them back at a later date and pay a specified rate of interest.

Mr Maude believes repurchase agreements with very short maturities might be included in a narrow money stock measure, which he says could perhaps be called M1A.

Mr David Jones, an economist for Abbey G. Langston and Co, of New York, thinks the new money definitions will also include all types of bank accounts where the deposits can be used to pay for transactions.

One example would be the popular "now" account, which technically is a savings account, but against which consumers can write withdrawal orders that look and work much like cheques and unlike current accounts earn interest.

Some analysts think at least a portion of the amounts invested in money-market funds might be taken into account in one or more new money measures. But funds are similar to mutual funds, but their assets are invested in short-term securities such as United States Treasury bills.

Consumers have been turning increasingly to money-market funds as a substitute for savings accounts. Furthermore, some funds allow their holders to write cheques against the amounts they have invested in the funds.

It is not certain how many new money stock measures the Fed will introduce or which ones it will look at in carrying out monetary policy.

But until it makes it clear which of the measures it will concentrate on, analysts will probably have a harder time judging monetary policy. "It will be a more uncertain period for Fed watchers", Mr Jones says.

Edward P. Foldessy
Associated Press

The Trans-Oceanic Trust Limited

Managed by J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited

The Annual General Meeting was held at 120 Cheapside, London EC2 on Thursday, 7 February, 1979 at 10.30 a.m.

The following is a summary of the Report by the Directors for the year ended 31 October, 1979.

	1979	1978	%Change
Total Revenue	£1,754,082	£1,450,670	+20.9%
Revenue after taxation and expenses	£ 991,235	£ 726,503	+36.3%
Earnings per Ordinary Share (see below)	8.08p	5.93p	+36.3%
Ordinary dividends for the year net per share	7.48p	5.50p	+36.3%
Net asset value per 25p Ordinary Share	224.7p	227.9p	-1.4%

The earnings per ordinary share reflect non-recurring income from the Company's holdings in Shell Transport & Trading Limited and Unilever Limited as a result of the removal of dividend restraint, amounting to £154,778. As the Directors considered that the benefit of this income should be passed on directly to the shareholders at the earliest opportunity, a special interim dividend of 1.28p per share has been declared and paid on the Ordinary Capital, absorbing £153,722.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries, J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, 48 St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4EU.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

GEC will respond

Racal's share price ended the trading session yesterday evening at 217p where its new paper offer for Decca is worth £93m, but that was before GEC said it would counter again. By any measure though Racal's is a decent response to GEC's first bid of £82m in cash. Racal's latest offer is no less than 43 per cent higher than its first, so there is a message here somewhere not least for Decca's board and its advisers County Bank who had recommended Racal's terms at the outset.

That said the prices being offered are beginning to look highish given that Decca is now commanding around £30m of gold, albeit based on some fairly historic book values. GEC will now push Racal further this morning and it will presumably use its enormous cash resources to maximum advantage. Racal has underpinned its equity bid with a cash offer that matches GEC's exactly. I guess that GEC will simply match Racal's equity with cash. Racal's idea is that the majority of Decca shareholders will opt for the Racal shares—and on this count it still looks comfortable.

Assuming first that all Decca shareholders took the shares and, second, that Decca broke even next year, equity dilution would still only be of the order of 15 per cent. Racal is probably in a net borrowing position, but it can safely fund any cash option through internal funds and borrowing; gearing on the cash would still be only around 45 per cent.

Nevertheless, this suggests when Racal is pushed today it will have to consider some sort of underwriting operation. There are still two stages left for this one to run, then, and Decca shareholders should stay put.

● In oil as in gold the soundest advice is to sell on a strike. Then the excitement ends and the grind of drilling begins. But people are shortly to be asked to buy shares in Berkeley Exploration and Production, and appropriately, it has (as yet) no worthwhile oil or gas to speak of.

Hope is nourished by a drilling programme, and the proximity of BEPL's interests to other people's finds. Sometimes Berkeley found hydrocarbons; sometimes it encountered Jurassic sands; but all the wells so far drilled have been plugged and abandoned. There are no profits and no dividend. It is, in the jargon, a blue sky stock.

It is also the first offer for sale under Rule 163(3), a rule designed for stocks which do not fulfil official listing requirements. It is certainly an exciting stock for this accolade, an excitement undiminished by the partly paid nature of the shares. Subscribers will be asked for 50p a share to start, with the threat of a further 50p to pay, some time after March next year.

But the only sure beneficiaries of the issue are KCA, Mr Paul Bristol's publicly-quoted group which is spinning off Berkeley, the issuing house, Charterhouse Japhet (see £64,750), and the brokers. Normal investment criteria do not apply.

London & County

Paying up

Deloitte Haslins & Sells takes the view that the £900,000 it has agreed to pay in an out of court settlement of the London & County v Harmond Banner affair is a not unreasonable price for peace of mind. After all, what is a mere £900,000 against the potential £10m plus liability (damages plus costs and interest) under which the firm might otherwise have laboured for the next six months?

But the affair has implications, not just for the partners in Deloitte and their insurers, but for the profession as a whole. For if £900,000 is the price of innocence (and Deloitte is still vigorously denying the allegations of negligence against the former Harmond Banner), then what on earth is it going to cost next year to insure against the risk of guilt?

Accountants taking out professional indemnity cover under the English Institute's scheme suffered an increase in premiums this year, after three years of static costs; and what with this, Peat Marwick's little difficulty in Germany, and the Mann Judd & Barrow Hephurn affair last summer, there isn't much doubt that insurers for the big eight will be bumping up their premiums as well.

On the other hand, one matter is left unsettled in the precipitate end to the case which, had it run its course, might have forced up premiums even higher: and that is the novel question of whether auditors are liable for losses subsequent to and consequent on their auditing of the books. Some £4m of the £5.75m which the liquidator of London & County originally claimed was attributable to these consequential losses; and the very novelty of the claim, and uncertainty over whether it would be admitted, was one of the factors inducing him to settle out of court. So that is one battle deferred to another day.

Takeover Code

An overseas attack

By far the thorniest subject, after insider dealing, the Takeover Panel has had to address itself to in the dozen years it has been trying to regulate the takeover scene is abuses of Rule 34. Broadly speaking this seeks to ensure that any party, or parties acting in concert, that acquires a stake of 30 per cent or more in a company should extend a general bid to all shareholders.

Thus the last major revision of the Code in 1978 was forced to plug the gap—exposed during the Allegheny Ludlum-Wilkinson Match affair when the United States company acquired 30 per cent of its target and then pushed up its stake to control by acquiring new shares in exchange for assets—whereby a bidder could secure control without making a general offer.

Not for the first time a foreign company is now threatening to drive a coach and horses through the Panel's rules, with a helping hand from the ending of the requirement that Treasury consent had to be obtained before a 10 per cent stake could be taken of a United Kingdom concern under the old Exchange Control regulations. Foreign intervention has caused the Panel plenty of headaches in the past.

Coincidence or not, given that one of the rumoured suitors for Consolidated Gold Fields is an Afrikaaner concern, it was General Mining five years ago that cocked a snook at the Panel by making a partial bid for Union Corporation in contravention to the spirit of the Code.



Mr. John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade.

The General Mining episode exposed one of the principal weaknesses of the Panel, namely that it is only effective because it deals with a small group of City professionals who by and large know the rules of the game and understand that if they want to go on playing they will have to abide by the letter and the spirit of the Code. The upshot though of the General Mining affair was that the Panel had to relax its rules on partial bids in the case of foreign companies.

The Panel was similarly snubbed two years ago when it tried without success to find out the identity of Swiss bank clients who had purchased Dunford and Elliott shares prior to the Loughboe bid.

The Gold Fields developments seem to illustrate just as clearly that if a prospective bidder wants to hide behind a foreign nominee there is nothing the Panel can do to flush him out. The ball appears to be more in the court of company law however with the disclosure requirements for United Kingdom and foreign companies over the 5 per cent ruling so divergent.

One protection which some big United Kingdom companies including BP, John Laing and Costain use is to change their articles of association to disenfranchise shareholders who hide behind nominee holdings and refuse to identify themselves.

Hamburg

The announcement by the Deutsche Bundespost (the German Federal Post Office) late last month that it intends to market telephones with extras, such as a built-in answering service, has revived the debate in West Germany about whether the organization is abusing its monopoly.

While Britain questions whether the Post Office should be divested of some of its functions, the problem in the federal republic is how to keep the service from expanding its monopolistic position by adding new services in markets already served by private firms.

The Bundespost is a formidable competitor. Germany's largest economic enterprise and Europe's largest service organization, it is the country's biggest employer and by far the highest spender of capital investment. Because of huge operating surpluses in the telephone business, it has been making a net profit of DM2,000m (about £151m) in each of the past few years, despite a stubborn deficit in traditional postal services.

The Bundespost, which operates banking and other services besides its monopoly of post and telecommunications, has shown, under Herr Kurt Gscheidele, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, virtually entrepreneurial enthusiasm for entering new markets.

In the past months for instance, it has added foreign exchange and travellers' cheques to its banking services. In 1978 it began offering parcel sets for sale, complete with collapsible cardboard box, tape, string, cardboard box, tape, string and address card—all for as little as one mark.

These activities, which are clearly outside the Bundespost's monopoly areas, arouse hostility from banks which have always complained that it can undercut them because it does not have to pay postage. Also, stationery shops are resentful that the Bundespost does not have to pay value added tax.

But the main criticism falls on

Darrell Delamaide describes how the marketing efforts of the Bundespost have run into trouble



Otto Graf Lambsdorff (left), Economics Minister, and Herr Kurt Gscheidele, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications. The Economics Ministry has criticized some of the Bundespost's activities.

its telecommunications activities especially as new technology opens up fresh sectors. In the past two years the Bundespost has moved into the community aerial and cable television business, the distribution and service of telefacsimile equipment and, now, the marketing of telephone equipment with ancillary electronic functions.

The entry into the teleprinter market in 1978 caused Otto Graf Lambsdorff's economics ministry, which has a veto right over any new rates charged by the Bundespost, to object. It would have an unfair advantage in a market hitherto dominated by medium-sized firms, the ministry argued.

A compromise was finally reached, whereby the Bundespost agreed to limit its share of the market to 20 per cent. Herr Gscheidele's ministry argued that the Bundespost had to be involved in this business to keep up with the technical developments.

You have to ask where this argument ends, an official in the economics ministry said. Following that line of reason-

ing, for instance, the Bundespost could justify entry into the colour television market because it lays cable.

Its entry into the cable market aroused the anger of the Central Association of German Electrical Craftsmen, which filed an action with the constitutional court in Karlsruhe (later rejected on technical grounds).

The craftsmen argued that the Bundespost, which is the statutory authority for regulating cable installation, has an unfair advantage as a competitor. They cited cases where it denied permission to a private firm to lay cable and then granted itself laying rights. The Bundespost says that this has been only on public property and is to ensure an installation which will be adaptable to high capacity cable later.

Another charge from the craftsmen was that the Bundespost created an "information cartel" on technical specifications for community antennae with several large firms which regularly supply telecommunications equipment. This group

most notably Siemens, AEG-Telefunken, Standard Elektrik Lorenz (an IIT affiliate), and Philips—are traditional suppliers of telephone and television equipment.

Smaller firms not belonging to this group have claimed that they are excluded from Bundespost contracts or prevented from introducing new products. Nixdorf Computer, which aims to expand its telecommunications business, until recently the Bundespost's 1978 rejection of its data telephone—an "intelligent" telephone, which can transfer data over normal telephone lines. The service argued that the apparatus was not compatible with European regulations for monitoring main telephone connections.

Herr Helmut Rausch, Nixdorf's managing director, said that the close cooperation between the Bundespost and its principal suppliers hindered innovation. "We will all have to bear the consequences arising from years of delayed innovation due to unexploited reserves of creativity and a

growing technological gap," he said at the time.

Various research studies have documented other instances of missed innovation, and the press—led by Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Die Zeit and Wirtschaftswoche—have periodically challenged the role of the Bundespost in new telecommunications sectors.

Siemens, the service's main supplier of telecommunications equipment, rejects this claim. A Siemens managing director said on the Bundespost's administrative council, the highest decision-making body, as technical adviser.

The electrical goods concern and the service both suffered a major embarrassment last year with the suspension of plans to install an electronic data processing system developed by Siemens. The process, based on the traditional analogue system rather than the new and faster digital one, was judged to be obsolete before its planned installation this year.

Herr Gscheidele and his ministry have developed a trick skin when it comes to criticism, apart from the fact that the ministry has a public relations and advertising budget of DM30m to explain its side of things to the public. Indeed thanks to its large surpluses the Bundespost has enough money to do almost anything it wants.

"All that money can be put to use," a Bonn ministry official commented. "You see, the feeling you can do anything."

The latest proposed expansion of the service into the supply of specialist telephones has led to new talks with the economics ministry about binding competition. The Federal Central Office in Berlin, which oversees the service, is also involved in the talks.

A basic decision should be reached in the next round of talks. "But if the problem will not go on and on," said Herr Rausch, "then it is reasonable for antitrust questions in the economics ministry." Each new development will require close attention and a by case."

Technology

Research and development can contribute a great deal to the much needed rejuvenation of British industry, but simply to increase R and D spending is in itself no panacea. Recent official reports have implied that a greater R and D effort will inevitably result in growth, increased market share, collapse of the competition and other assorted benefits.

This is not necessarily so, and to believe that it is displays a naive indifference to the lessons of the 1970s, let alone those of the 1950s.

The Government's Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development suggested recently that British industry would do well to buy technology from abroad where appropriate. This is a fair point, but it is not the whole picture, because technology alone is of limited use.

Not only are British companies in general slow to make advantage of available foreign technology but it is alleged they are also slow to take advantage of British technology if it resides outside their own laboratory or factory gates. The not-invented-here syndrome has applied within companies as it has within the country as a whole.

One symptom of this in the past has been the reluctance of industry to put R and D work out to contract Britain's contract research organizations, outside specialists who sell their expertise via consultancy.

research and development projects—looked enviously at the United States, where contract research was an accepted way of business life.

Now there is some evidence that contract research business has become respectable in Britain, too. "Contract R and D makes particular sense in times of financial stringency and when good, experienced engineers are in short supply," says Mr Robin Smith-Saville, director of business development at Cambridge Consultants, a subsidiary of the Arthur D. Little consultancy.

Painless route

According to Cambridge Consultants, the contract R and D market is booming. Of the company's work 80 per cent is for United Kingdom clients, ranging from large companies, the Ministry of Defence and the Post Office to small, specialized companies. Turnover reached £2m in 1979, with profits of 25 per cent ahead of the planned level.

Mr Richard Cutting, managing director, attributes much of the heightened interest in contract R and D to the Government's various new-technology "awareness" and consultancy programmes, including those aimed at microprocessor uses

in particular. For companies wishing to respond to new technology, contract research and development can provide a relatively painless route.

About half of Cambridge Consultants' projects involve microprocessors in one way or another. Software and production engineering skills have become all-important.

Innovation tailored to new products for industry is the specialty of another consultancy-owned group, the PA Technology and Science Centre (Pascence) of PA Management Consultants. Over the past 10 years Pascence at Cambridge has shown a good track record in developing innovative and commercially successful products—primarily for overseas companies, because British companies were not interested.

A few years ago only 20 per cent of the centre's work was for United Kingdom companies. Now the proportion has risen to 40 per cent, on a growing volume of business (overseas work has also grown) with the setting up of similar Pascences in Australia, Sweden, Belgium and, only last month, at Princeton in the United States. Total Pascence business is now between £5m and £10m a year.

Mr Gordon Edge, Pascence's director, points to the wide range of technologies that are involved in new product de-

velopment. Combinations of advances in different fields—electronics plus optics, electronics plus electricity, new materials plus design for automated assembly, computing power plus new sensors—are now needed to produce genuine innovations.

Mr Edge draws a distinction between innovation, which is the response to a need, and invention, which may be ingenious, even brilliant—but irrelevant. In successful innovation the key is to blend the various advances in technology into an integrated whole. Realism in defining the need at the start can reduce the risk which inevitably accompanies product development.

Attention to the market

Large companies with substantial in-house R and D resources may fail to innovate successfully because their centres of specialized expertise are not working together. And the small entrepreneurial organizations in the United States are new less able to innovate than once they were, because they have become increasingly specialized while the need is for

greater integration of technologies.

Paying rigorous attention to the market and to realistic constraints for the client company from the start, and channelling the technology accordingly, is an important element of the Pascence discipline.

Also, in the National Enterprise Board's Inspec and Aregon software and videodata subsidiaries, market research and development have clearly been regarded as just as important as, if not more important than, the scientific research and development which underlies their innovative products.

There are lessons here for those who believe that all will be well if Britain simply pumps enough money into research and development into semiconductor, or robotics, or computer-aided engineering, or biotechnology, or whatever. All will not be well.

The myth that high spending at the R and D end of the innovation chain is directly related to high performance at the market end was, I believe, demolished many years ago. In essence the plea is for relevant R and D in the widest sense—and to determine relevance has become a very complicated process indeed.

Kenneth Owen

Business Diary: Moscow Narodny's 'Niet' • BL's bulldog

As an example of the embarrassments which face the Russians at present, the dispute now brewing at the Russian-owned Moscow Narodny Bank in the City of London is pretty small potatoes—but curious.

The bank is a British-registered concern whose shareholders are a clutch of 40 or so Russian state finance and trading organizations. Leit Mills, general secretary of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union let it be known yesterday that a recognition dispute between the union and the bank had "come to a head".

The problem, according to BTFU, is that although the union is recognized as the bank staff's negotiating body, Moscow Narodny's management negotiators behave in such a way as to constitute "a calculated denial of that recognition".

The Russian board, the union says, refuses to give its own management negotiator the authority to deal properly. But a resolutely anonymous Moscow Narodny spokesman told me yesterday: "The negotiators have a full mandate to negotiate with the union. I ally can't see what the union complaining about."

He did not feel mandated in relation with me, however, name either the bank's chairman (whom the "wants to see" or even the senior deputy manager, ordered where disgruntled people at Moscow might look elsewhere employment, and tried—at a of course—Alderman in Finsbury. They, too, would not a I must conclude that is not much to choose the two employers.

Metalcraft, a North London ornamental ironmongery company, received the first consignment of a new import yesterday—a selection of "picket castings". One attraction of these fence embellishments, the company says, is that they slot together so that you can make your own connection from the range in the catalogue. Of these, nos 673-CF and 674-CF, "Cast Iron Ball", caught my eye. They seem to me the sort of picket casting which with some chain Lord Denning might have designed.

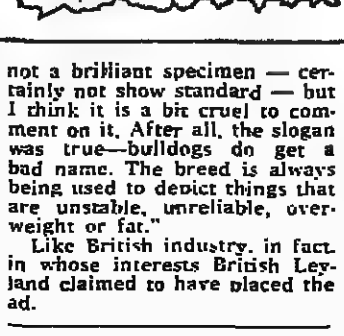
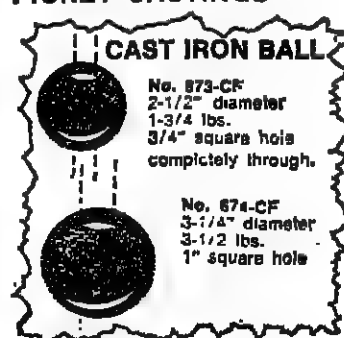
● British Leyland, on top of all their other little local difficulties, is the subject of some growing at Cruft's dog show this week. Bulldog breeders are indignant about the picture of a rather dejected looking animal in advertisements in the national newspapers on Monday with the heading "Give a dog a bad name".

Fred Bateman, a Leicester-shire breeder, was one of the first to protest. "It was a terrible photograph of a not very impressive dog," he complained. "Its ears were buttoned, its mouth was wrong and there were all sorts of other faults."

Mrs Jean Saunders, breed representative on the Kennel Club liaison committee (a sort of shop steward if you like), said: "Our breed always gets the bad end of the stick. We are sick to death of it. If they want to use a picture of a bulldog they could use a good one to start with."

Mrs Anne Worth of the British Bulldog Association was rather kinder: "The dog was

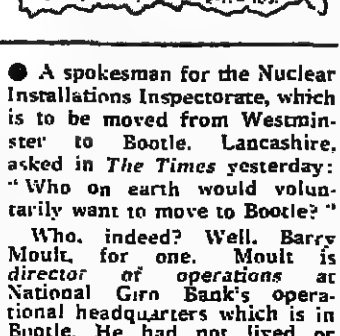
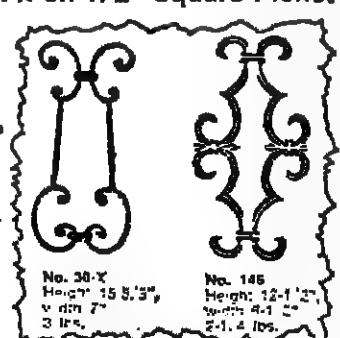
PICKET CASTINGS



not a brilliant specimen—certainly not show standard—but I think it is a bit cruel to comment on it. After all, the slogan was true—bulldogs do get a bad name. The breed is always being used to depict things that are unstable, unreliable, overweight or fat.

Like British industry, in fact, in whose interests British Leyland claimed to have placed the ad.

Fit on 1/2" Square Picket



● A spokesman for the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, which is to be moved from Westminster to Bootle, Lancashire, asked in The Times yesterday: "Who on earth would voluntarily want to move to Bootle?"

Who, indeed? Well, Barry Mowbray for one. Mowbray is director of operations at National Gyn Bank's operational headquarters which is in Bootle. He had not lived or worked outside the Home Counties before and said yesterday: "The town has a variety of attractions to suit most needs. He had excellent beaches, golf clubs (Royal Birkdale for one), shops and places to live 'within easy reach'."

Bootle is a fairly grimy industrial town, but is only part of the borough of Sefton, which takes in the sea resorts of Ainsdale, Formby and Southport, as well as Liverpool's "Millionaires' Row", Crosby and Blundellsands. There is a nature reserve and miles of farmland.

● Few people these days dare offer to sell nothing but hope. But in oil there is no lack of takers.

Yesterday we had details of Berkeley Exploration and Production, a spin-off from Paul Bristol's KCA International. Berkeley is roaming the North Sea for oil and gas, but has yet to find any in worthwhile quantities.

If the offer goes well, then Bristol, the next step in his grand design, a spin-off from the drilling activities of KCA. Over the years the ultimate aim, sceptics say, is to have a master company surrounded by satellites, with the value of the main company sustained by the quoted paper of the companies around it.

The design sounds very much like the empire nearly built by Jim Slater, but Bristol's confessed model is the Anglo American gold and diamond empire built up by the Oppenheims for whom he once worked. A man with Bristol's nerve and charm might just do

British Home Stores. I am told, received a letter from a pop group recently asking whether it would mind if a record appeared with the title "Making love in the doorway of British Home Stores." There was a move within BHS to reply: "No, as long as you don't do it in the store itself," but the end reply was sent more in keeping with BHS's drab image.

Ross Davies

Town & City Properties LIMITED

Unaudited interim results for the half year ended 28th September, 1979

Year ended	Half Year ended	Half Year ended
24.3.79	28.9.79	28.9.79
£'000	£'000	£'000
34,803	17,506	17,543
Gross income from property	3,167	1,788
Net income from property	3,361	2,159
Income from other sources	5,528	3,947
Less: Interest payable less receivable	(14,105)	(11,605)
LOSS before taxation	(7,577)	(7,658)
Less: Taxation relief	3,579	3,481
(7,903)	(3,998)	(4,177)
Minority interests	(10)	3
Realised capital profits	17,003	3,824
Transferred to capital reserve	(17,003)	(3,824)
(7,886)	(4,008)	(4,174)
Shortfall of distributable income for period		

NOTES

1. Realised capital profits less losses and capital charges (after taxation) are made up as follows:

	£'000
Surplus of sale proceeds over original cost of property, less capital gains tax	17,587
Excess of cost of acquisition over book value of net tangible assets of subsidiaries written off in respect of sales	(417)
Net capital losses	(167)
	17,003

Note: The above surplus on sale of properties has no regard to valuation surpluses in previous years amounting to £5,847,000 which were included in capital reserve and have been written off.

2. The taxation relief included above is £3,600,000 (Period to 28.9.79 £3,500,000), and is limited by reference to the amount of offsettable chargeable capital gains. Significant losses remain available to be carried forward against future revenue profits.

No dividend is recommended for the period to 28th September 1979.

Since the publication of the annual accounts last July a further £25 million of property has been sold with a book value of £21 million. This brings the total of sales since 25.3.79 to £45 million with a book value of £28 million.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Western Mining puts up profits four-fold

Western Mining, one of the biggest and fastest growing mining companies in Australia, saw its profits before tax and extraordinary items and after interest rise almost four times in the six months to January 8 to \$44.3m (£21.4m).

Although the doubling in the received price of gold and the five-fold increase in received silver prices were important, more profitable nickel operations remain the key to Western Mining's operation.

The company is Australia's largest nickel producer and one of the few in the world to be consistently profitable. Sales of nickel rose 36 per cent by value in spite of a fall of 16 per cent to 21,016 tonnes in production.

Sunshine Silver

Nature resource companies and underground firms are showing special interest in Sunshine Mining Company's latest discovery. Some of them are thinking of staking similar claims, writes AP-Dow Jones.

Sunshine's newest find is an unusual kind of debt-security offering—one that can be redeemed in silver and that gives holders a chance to profit from a further rise in the soaring price of the metal.

Analysts expect investors to line up to buy the certificates, which Dallas-based Sunshine announced on Monday, because the issue combined attractive features of a bond-buying and commodity-speculating with few of the risks.

Nestlé profit rise

Nestlé SA showed higher group profits for 1979 on increased sales of about 21bn Swiss francs after 19.5bn in 1978. Mr Arthur Fuerrer of the company supervisory board said.

Mr Fuerrer said it was not for exchange rate movements last year the rise in sales would have been twice that reported.

Options

Dealers reported some evenly spread business among traded options yesterday as total contracts rose from 753 to 839.

Three shares held most of the business, with R.T.Z. accounting for 221 contracts, BP 171 and Royal 115. In Rio's, the strong copper price continued to attract investors with the May 420p series proving popular.

Today sees a new series of Cons. Gold options, which include the April, July and October 550p series and the BP July and October 400p series. It turned out to be a busy Declaration Day among traditional options with oil and Australian mines drawing most interest.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Credit	17%
C. Hoare & Co.	17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminster	17%
Royal Bank	17%
Rossminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 14% up to £25,000 15% over £25,000 16%.

Wall Street

New York, Feb 7.—Stocks rose in heavy trading this morning extending yesterday's strong rally. Advances led declines more than two-to-one and the Dow Jones Industrial average added four points.

Rails, which along with oil led yesterday's advance, were strong again. Union Pacific jumped 2 1/2 to 88 1/2, Missouri Pacific 1 1/2 to 59 1/2, St. Louis and San Francisco 1 1/2 to 72, Chesapeake 1 1/2 to 52, Norfolk 1 1/2 to 53 and Southern Pacific 2 1/2 to 47 1/2.

Volume leader Gulf Oil added 1 1/2 to 62 1/2, Mobil 1 1/2 to 62 1/2 and Exxon 1 1/2 to 63 1/2.

February 6: The Dow Jones Industrial average closed 5.21 points up at 881.34.

New York, Feb 6.—Blue chip issues rallied strongly higher in late trading. The advancing issues managed to outpace ahead of declines, 630 to 620.

The Dow Jones Industrial average closed at 881.34 up 5.21 in a late surge of buying.

Gold steady

GOLD started in range of \$712.00 to \$714.00. March, \$712.00; April, \$713.00; May, \$714.00; June, \$715.00; July, \$716.00; August, \$717.00; September, \$718.00; October, \$719.00; November, \$720.00; December, \$721.00.

CHICAGO IMM—\$713.00; March, \$713.00; April, \$714.00; May, \$715.00; June, \$716.00; July, \$717.00; August, \$718.00; September, \$719.00; October, \$720.00; November, \$721.00; December, \$722.00.

Commodities

COPPER was steady at the lower end of the market. March, \$1.00; April, \$1.01; May, \$1.02; June, \$1.03; July, \$1.04; August, \$1.05; September, \$1.06; October, \$1.07; November, \$1.08; December, \$1.09.

SOYBEANS—March, \$1.00; April, \$1.01; May, \$1.02; June, \$1.03; July, \$1.04; August, \$1.05; September, \$1.06; October, \$1.07; November, \$1.08; December, \$1.09.

Options

Dealers reported some evenly spread business among traded options yesterday as total contracts rose from 753 to 839.

Three shares held most of the business, with R.T.Z. accounting for 221 contracts, BP 171 and Royal 115. In Rio's, the strong copper price continued to attract investors with the May 420p series proving popular.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	17%
Barclays Bank	17%
BCI Bank	17%
Consolidated Credit	17%
C. Hoare & Co.	17%
Lloyds Bank	17%
London Mercantile	17%
Midland Bank	17%
Nat Westminster	17%
Royal Bank	17%
Rossminster	17%
TSB	17%
Williams and Glyn's	17%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 14% up to £25,000 15% over £25,000 16%.

Company	Price	Change
Alcoa	11 1/2	+
Aluminum	11 1/2	+
Amstar	11 1/2	+
Armco	11 1/2	+
Aviation	11 1/2	+
Boeing	11 1/2	+
Chrysler	11 1/2	+
Consolidated	11 1/2	+
Dow	11 1/2	+
Exxon	11 1/2	+
General	11 1/2	+
IBM	11 1/2	+
Intel	11 1/2	+
Johnson	11 1/2	+
Kodak	11 1/2	+
Lockheed	11 1/2	+
McDonald	11 1/2	+
Merck	11 1/2	+
Microsoft	11 1/2	+
Motorola	11 1/2	+
Northern	11 1/2	+
Oracle	11 1/2	+
Rockwell	11 1/2	+
Sony	11 1/2	+
Texas	11 1/2	+
United	11 1/2	+
Walt Disney	11 1/2	+
Wendover	11 1/2	+
World	11 1/2	+
Yahoo	11 1/2	+
Zenith	11 1/2	+

Money Market

The discount market, progressively feeling less uncomfortable and more relaxed as the tribulations of the recent past recede, still needed help on a moderate scale to bridge a shortage of funds in the market yesterday. The Bank of England used this assistance by purchasing a small quantity of Treasury bills direct from discount houses, buying a small amount of eligible bank bills under resale agreement, and by lending a small sum to three or four houses overnight at 11%.

Discount market

During the morning, houses were paying between 16 1/2 per cent and 17 per cent for fresh secured money. From time to time money was quite responsive, especially at the higher level of bids. After lunch, rates eased down to 16 1/2 per cent as one house, but were firming again towards the finish, so that closing balances were mostly found within bounds of 16 1/2 per cent and 17 per cent.

Foreign exchange report

Profit taking pulled the pound back quite sharply on foreign exchanges yesterday after Wednesday's strong advance to seven month highs. The dollar picked up on a Kuwait newspaper report that release of the US hostages in Iran was imminent.

Sterling went up to 2.3160.

Sterling Spot and Forward

to "highs". The dollar picked	But, by the close, the pound was
up in a Kuwait newspaper report	down to 2,300 for a loss of 1
of the US hostages in	cent on the balance. The effective
Iranian	exchange rate index closed 0.
prison went up to 2,3160	down at 72.5.

Sterling Spot and Forward

Market rates (day's range)	February 7 1980	February 8 1980	February 9 1980
New York	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
London	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Paris	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Frankfurt	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Geneva	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Basel	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Zurich	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Brussels	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Ams	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Stockholm	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Copenhagen	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Helsinki	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Tokyo	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Osaka	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Manila	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Bombay	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Calcutta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Rangoon	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Singapore	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Colombo	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Madras	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Batavia	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Samarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Bandung	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Medan	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Bandung	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Medan	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Bandung	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Medan	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Bandung	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Medan	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Medan	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Medan	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
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Medan	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Pekanbaru	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Semarang	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Surabaya	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Yogyakarta	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100	2.3090-2.3100
Bandung			

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1979.80	Int. Rates	1979.80
High Low Stock	Int. Hed	High Low Company
	Drugs Price Fund Stock	

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THE TIMES SHARE INDICES
Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the Index of 150 Industrial stocks, are being reviewed and recalculated.

lated to cover the period of non-publi-
cation.



Holidays and Hotels in Britain and Ireland

West Country

WANT TO SHAKE OFF THOSE WINTER BLUES AND GET AWAY FROM IT ALL FOR A FEW DAYS?

The Isles of Scilly are the answer. The Bell Rock Hotel is the place to stay.

As a fully licensed, excellent cuisine warm, friendly atmosphere, perfect service, solar heated swimming pools, vacancies at BARGAIN BREAK rates in March. Some vacancies for remainder of season. Write or telephone for details.

Peter Corbett, BELL ROCK HOTEL, St. Mary's, Isle of Scilly TR21 0JS. Tel: 0720 22575 P.S. Spring has already sprung down here!

THE MARINERS AT ROCK

near cliff a luxury flat to accommodate six, situated in a prime position overlooking Camel Estuary. Full restaurant facilities.

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DEVON—Delightful family holiday

at the beautiful and historic town of Tiverton, Devon. Tel: 0392 23123.

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DEVON—17th century schoolhouse

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CLEVEDON—5 C Cottages

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holiday at the beautiful and historic town of Tiverton, Devon. Tel: 0392 23123.

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NORTH CORNWALL—Fisherman's

holiday at the beautiful and historic town of Tiverton, Devon. Tel: 0392 23123.

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North Devon, Ashley Court, Devon. Tel: 0392 23123.

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Ideal holiday hotel overlooking the sea. Tel: 0392 23123.

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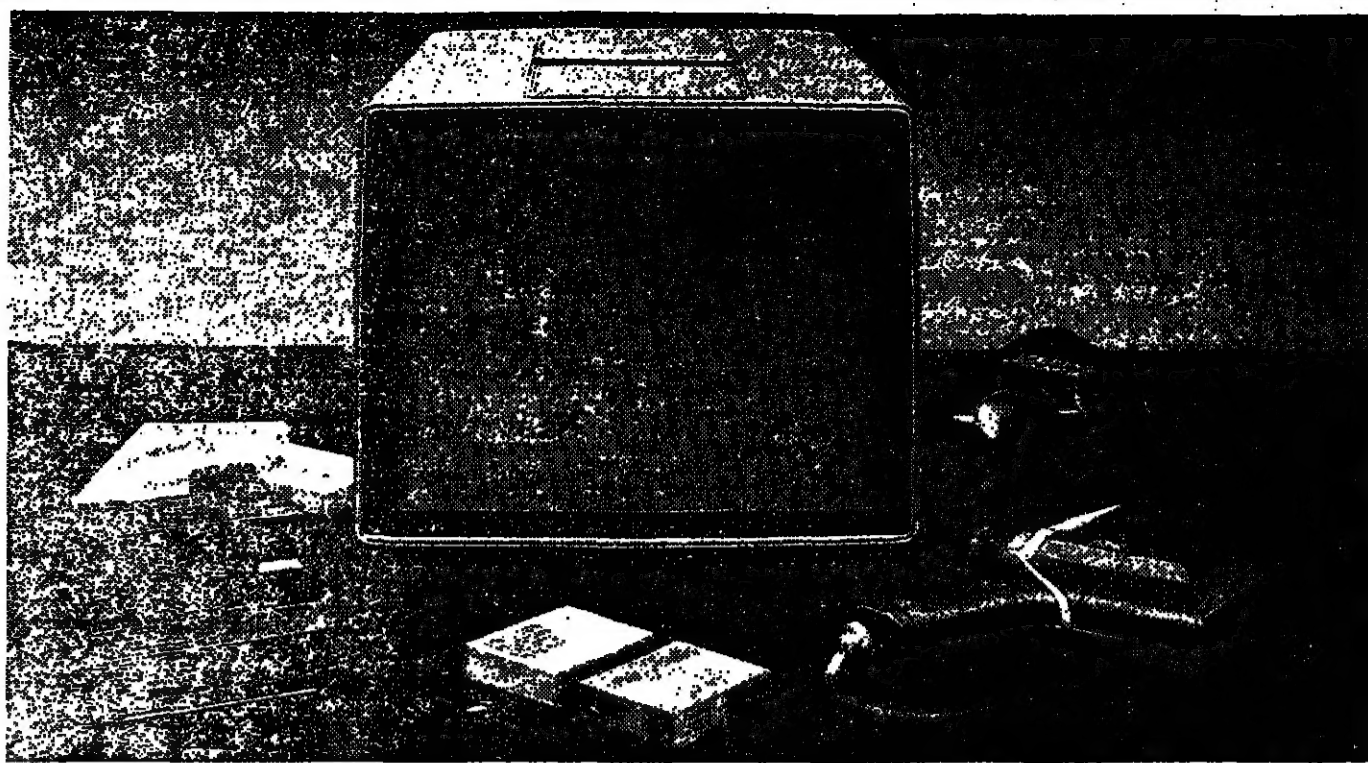
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Win this Polavision Camera and you're an instant film star.

First prize of this year's Summer Holiday Competition will be a complete Polavision movie outfit. The latest development from Polaroid.

Which, as its name suggests, gives instant moving pictures.

Simply shoot your movie with the hand-held camera, load the exposed film cassette into the player, wait just ninety seconds and then sit down and enjoy the show. No screens to set up. No projector to thread.

Just imagine, you could show a wedding at the reception, relive Christmas Day on Boxing Day or even watch your holiday films while you're still on holiday.

The possibilities are endless.

And things are looking good for the runners up. Every week, for three months, we'll be giving away a Polavision Auto Focus 5000 which produces instant colour photographs and guarantees perfect sharpness.

And for three other lucky losers there'll be a pair of 'Lookers by Polaroid' Sunglasses.

HOW TO ENTER

First, read through the holiday columns and find the answers to these three simple questions.

1 Where can you sleep in the barn at the end of the world?

2 Where can you join Emily, Anne and Charlotte?

3 The Fawley Towers of South-East Cornwall?

(Prizes supplied by Unesco)

Now imagine that you are an exhausted Robinson Crusoe shortly after arrival on Desert Island.

Is the place all you had hoped for?

Admittedly it's scorching hot, secluded and the native is friendly. But don't the amenities leave something to be desired? Hotel not even partially constructed, night life a shade dull and the possibility of romance exceedingly remote.

All in all it doesn't add up to much of a holiday. So write a letter of complaint (max. 100 words) to the travel agency that has organised your stay there.

But beware. They're also responsible for your return and too harsh a criticism could leave you stranded. Best to make light of the matter. Humour them.

Then send us your letter. We must receive it by next Wednesday. So don't put it in a bottle, post it directly to The Times Summer Holiday Competition, New Printing House Square, Grays Inn Road, London W.C.1.

At the end of the competition all the winning entries will be judged again and the author of the most entertaining letter will receive the Polavision Movie outfit.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. Employees of The Times Newspapers Limited and their families may not apply.

2. The decision of the judges is final.

THE TIMES

U.K. Holidays Competition.

Scotland

ISLE OF SKYE KINLOCK LODGE HOTEL

A former shooting lodge, now a small, comfortable, well-furnished hotel, with a fine view of the sea.

Full restaurant facilities, swimming pool, tennis, golf, etc.

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PERSONAL CHOICE



Bruce Forsyth in Play Your Cards Right (ITV, 7.30)

Yet another hard-luck story about a prisoner coming out of jail? You could say that about today's After Noon Plus (ITV, 2.00), but you would be wide of the mark, as I will now explain. "Bob", convicted of theft and fraud, comes out of Pentonville at 10.30 this morning. He is met—and we see the meeting—by an old school chum, Simon Reed, who also happens to be an After Noon Plus reporter. Off they go to a pub, "Bob", who has twice been inside, has not got only the problem of going straight to worry about. He was a drug addict, and has to learn how to keep off the stuff. While the impressions of prison life are still crisp, he talks to Mr Reed—about the past, present and possible future. Then off he goes to the studio, where the governor of Pentonville, Roland Adams, talks (to Miss Nicholson) about cases like "Bob's". The two men are not allowed to meet before the cameras but, after watching the governor's interview, "Bob" comments on it. As I said, not just another story of a prisoner coming out of jail.

Peter Adam's admirable documentary about the multi-faceted Edward Albee, playwright/director/producer/arts benefactor (BBC 2, 8.00) probably gets as close as anybody ever will to cracking the code by which this complex man lives. He is a coolly arrogant individual, an intellectual, a despiser of mediocre critics, plays, and audiences; a playwright who so delights in life's ambiguities and ambivalences that he packs them into his plays (Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? A Delicate Balance, Zoo Story, from all the which we see excerpts) and into his replies to Mr Adam's questions. I am glad to report that Mr Adam does not always allow Mr Albee to get away with them.

Five Days in 55 (Radio 4, 3.15) is a leg-pull, though the fun arises out of the fact that it could (well, could just about) have happened. Radio Times calls it breath-takingly tedious, which should not put you off it: on the contrary, it is this very tediousness that is its raison d'être. Alan Plater wrote it; James Cameron narrates it; you have already seen it on television; and you heard it on radio in 1976 in a different but equally tedious version. I will not tell you what it is about because that might relieve the tedium. . . If you don't already know the work, go on an exciting voyage of discovery tonight (Radio 3, 8.35) and listen to György Pauk and Peter Frank playing the Ravel sonata for violin and piano. Recommended listening, too, for rhythm and blues high priests who think they know it all.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: *STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Oceanography, 7.30 Symbols and Equations. Closedown at 7.55.
9.05 For Schools: Colleges: Encounter (Germany); 9.25 Athletics (long jump); 9.52 Look and Read; 10.15 Maths-in-a-Box (story by Alex Glasgow); 10.35 Colour to Work (a collage); 11.00 Hya o Fyd (Welsh programme).
11.25 You and Me: For the very young. I feel better now (r).
11.40 Schools: Colleges: Exploring Science (fertilization); 12.05 pm Your Own Business (seeking advice); Closedown at 12.30.
12.45 News and weather.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Val Doonagan interviewed. Also an item on travel and leisure, and Peter Seabrook's gardening spot.
1.45 Mister Men: the story of Mr Muddle and Mr Daydream (r).
2.02 Schools: Colleges: Coins against the Wall; 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects (technical, Business education); Closedown at 3.00.
3.05 Pobel Y Cwm: Welsh programme; 3.55 Play School: Helena Piers's story The Donkey's Tale.
4.20 Captain Caveman: Cartoon. Playing Football with Bigfoot (r).
4.30 Jackanory: Steve Hudson

reads from Nina Warner Hooke's book Poppo (r).
4.45 Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle: Tarzan and the Graveyard of Elephants (r).
5.10 Grange Hill: Comprehensive school serial. Which team will Benny (Terry Sue Part) play for?
5.35 The Pershore Mini-comedy with Leonard Rossiter (r).
5.40 News with Kenneth Kendall. 5.55 Nationwide.
7.00 The Superstars: Sporting personalities from the International Ferguson Trophy. From Neimya in Israel. The competitors: Brian Jacks (United Kingdom); Kjetil Jakobsen (Sweden); Ties Kruijs (the Netherlands); Tony Ward (Republic of Ireland); Moshe Gams (Israel); Deep Zeeb (the Netherlands); Patrick Abada (France); and Kork Ballington (the USA) and 550 cc motor cycling world champion.
8.00 My Wife Next Door: Comedy series. Final episode. Husband (John Alderton) has his ex-wife (Renee O'Connor) as a navigator in a treasure-hunt car rally.
8.30 Breakaway: Part 5 of the Francis Durbridge thriller, starring Martin Jarvis. Tonight, he gets a telephone warning, and there is yet another body.
9.00 News with Richard Baker.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closed down at 11.25.
3.30 pm International Snooker: Benson and Hedges Masters. Semi-finals day. Live coverage of the opening frames from the Wembley Conference Centre, concluding frames in the two matches can be seen tonight at 9.50 and 11.25.
5.40 Harold Lloyd: Highlights from another two of the famous silent-film comedian's movies—From Head to Mouth, and The Kid Brother.
6.05 Monkey: Old Chinese fantastic adventures, made for Japanese TV and "done" into English. Tonight: the magician who kills a king.
6.50 Della Smith's Cookery Course: What are the best types of rice to use—and how to cook them perfectly. Miss Smith demonstrates the preparation of risotto alla Milanese and Turkish stuffed peppers. Also a film on the growing and harvesting of rice.
7.15 News with subtitles for the hard of hearing.
7.30 In the Country: The presenter is Angela Ripston and tonight's edition deals with horses on the farm and the future looks bright for them.
8.00 Edward Albee: The Playwright versus the Theatre. Profile of the American playwright/director/producer. Art collector. A man close to Peter Adam about all four aspects of his life (see Personal Choice).
9.00 International Pro-Celebrity Golf: Terry Wogan teams up with Ben Crenshaw and Peter Cook with Lee Trevino on the King's Course at Glenagles Hotel in Scotland.

Nine holes of serious golf, with a fair prospect of some chuckles between the holes.
9.50 International Snooker: The Benson and Hedges Masters. More play from Wembley Conference Centre. See also 11.25.
10.30 International Darts: The Embassy World Professional Darts Championship from Stoke-on-Trent.
11.10 News and weather.
11.25 International Snooker: The last of tonight's transmissions from Wembley.
11.45 Mornings: Ned Sherrin presides over a music and fun show that rarely disappoints. There are guests and a quiz.
12.35 am Close down: Julian Glover reads John Heath-Shubbs's story Address Not Known. Ends at 12.45.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Botanic Man (evolution, sea to land); 9.57 Stop, Look, Listen (Stone); 10.10 World (rush-hour travel); 10.27 It's Your Future (sex, discrimination); 10.48 Music round (piano); 11.10 Reading with Lenny; 11.22 Leapfrog (maths); 11.39 Believe it or Not (Islam).
11.55 Cartoon Time: Operation Ice-Tickle (r).
12.00 A Handful of Songs: For the young viewer.
12.10 Once upon a time: Peter Davidson tells the story of The Crocodile and the Jackal.
12.30 Simply Sewing: How to make a pair of trousers.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 Together: Serial about life in a block of flats. The pools syndicate.
2.00 After Noon Plus: A man comes out of prison. He talks about his life "inside". So does the governor (see Personal Choice).
2.45 Film: Quest for Love (1971). Science fiction yarn about the

strange world a physicist enters after an explosion. With Tom Bell as the scientist and Jean Collins as his wife.
4.15 The Tomorrow People: The Thargon Menace. Space ship lands on a Pacific Island, episode one of a two-part children's adventure (r).
4.45 Maggie: The Sweeney. Sad tidings for the Sweeney family.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.30 Thames Sport, with Allan Taylor and John McCrick.
10.00 News.

London Weekend

7.00 The Muppet Show: The human guest is the American comedian Jonathan Winters. The puppet world is invaded by spacemen.
7.30 Play Your Cards Right: The Bruce Forsyth quiz show, where contestants win prizes at the turn of a card, good nerves and intelligence help, too.
8.00 Life at Forty: Start of a new comedy series about new parents (Derek Nimmo and Rosemary Leach) and how they cope with the baby.
8.30 Hawaii Five-O: Crime thriller. A man is murdered, a policeman's husband.
9.30 The Comedians: A succession of jokes told in a variety of styles by funny men of widely differing abilities.
10.00 News.
10.30 Soap: More scenes from the surreal world of the Campbell and Tarkenton families.
11.00 The London Programme: Why urgent government action is needed to curb the crime and corruption in London. Includes film of the syndicate testing at Heathrow and in the West End, and charging monstrous fares. The presenter is Godfrey.
11.45 Chopper Squad: Waiting Things. Dramas about the sea and air rescue team in Sydney, Australia.
12.35 am Close: Another reading by Robert Cleyse from the theological works of Nahman of Bratslav.

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs.
9.45 Enquire Within.
10.00 News.
10.05 From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 The Wooden Horse (cond).
11.00 News.
11.05 Women of Words (3).
11.50 Bird of the Week.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.05 Music.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.10 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.15 Play: Five Days in 55, by Alan Plater.
4.10 Preview.
4.45 Story: The Last of the Bouncers.
5.00 News.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.
8.10 Profile.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime.
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.20 News.
1.45 Play: The Winner.
12.00 News.
12.15-12.23 am Weather.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 55.7 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 347m/721.5kHz and 90.92 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92.95 VHF. Greater London area only med wave 726kHz/417m. LBC 561m, 97.8 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 305m, 94.9 VHF.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Schumann, Strauss, Mozart (K264).
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Rimsky-Korsakov, Debussy, Stravinsky, Poulenc.
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Berg (incl. Via Conc).
9.55 Piano: Franck, Matyic, Beethoven (op 109), Scarlatti.
10.45 BBC Nat. Orchestral: Vaughan Williams, Panufnik, Haydn (Sym 47).
11.30 De Vorharing Ensemble: Borstlap, Dressens, Solli.
12.15 pm BBC Northern 50/Td-pine (live from RNCM, Manchester), pt 1: Falls, Saint-Seins (Vln Conc 3).
1.00 News.
1.05 In Short: talk.
1.20 BBCNSO, pt 2: Haydn (Sym 47).
2.05 The Arts Worldwide.
2.25 Records: Vivaldi, Smetana, Dvorak.
2.35 Young Hungarian composers: Hossay, Fehér.
3.55 Comparing Notes.
4.55 News.
5.00 Music for early evening.
7.00 Record: Albinoni.
7.10 One Pair of Ears: review.
7.15 pm BBC Northern 50/Td-pine (live from RNCM, Manchester), pt 2: Schubert, Schumann (Soc 1).
8.35 Pauk, Frank, pt 2: Bartok, Ravel.
9.15 Lecture (George Steiner): A Job, a Line in Sophocles.
10.00 Broadcasting Library: Brahms (Sym 1).
11.05 The First New England School: American music.
11.55-12.00 News.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Siera Jones; 7.32 Terry Vogan; 10.03 Colin Berry; 12.02 pm David Hamilton; 2.03 Ed Stewart; 4.03 Much More Music; 5.00 News. 5.05 Waggoners' Walk. 5.20 Much More Music; 6.03 John Dunn; 8.02 Jim MacLeod; 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night; 9.55 Sports Desk; 10.02 Rolf's Walkabout. 10.30 Sounds of Latin America. 11.02 Brian Matthews. 2.02 am 5.00 You and the Night and the Music.

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 6.00 Dave Lee Travis. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.31 Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm Andy Partridge. 4.31 Kid Jensen. 5.30 News. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 9.50 Newsbeat. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show. 12.00 am As Radio 2. 1.00 VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

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